



STATE OF MISSOURI
Proclamation
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month and Children's Mental Health Week raise awareness of the importance of caring for every Missourian's mental health and reinforce that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development; and

WHEREAS, healthy children and youth are fundamental to Missouri's future; and

WHEREAS, mental health is a vital component of proper growth and development for all children; and

WHEREAS, mental health treatment and support are critical to the health and well-being of Missouri citizens; and

WHEREAS, half of all mental illnesses begin by the age of 14, and high school students who experience mental illness are more than twice as likely to drop out of school as their peers, and suicide is the second leading cause of death in youth ages ten to fourteen; and

WHEREAS, one in five adults will experience a mental health condition in any given year; and

WHEREAS, the Missouri Department of Mental Health, NAMI Missouri, and partner organizations are committed to improving mental health awareness, services, and support.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE KEHOE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim

May 2026, to be **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**, and

May 3-9, 2026, to be **CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK**

in Missouri.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 29th day of April 2026.



Michael Kehoe
Mike Kehoe
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Denny Hoskins
SECRETARY OF STATE