

## PROCLAMATION

### DECLARING MAY 2022 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED CARE MONTH IN PALM BEACH COUNTY

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being, and;

WHEREAS, everyone experiences times of stress and struggles in their lives, especially in the last year due to the pandemic, social and racial injustice and;

WHEREAS, one in four adults and one in five youth ages 13-18 experience serious mental illness and;

WHEREAS, 60 percent of adults and 50 percent of youth do not receive the treatment necessary for their mental health needs due to limited or no knowledge of the need, barriers to care, or fear and shame, and;

WHEREAS, research recognizes that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), which include, but are not limited to physical, emotional and sexual abuse, physical and emotional neglect, household dysfunction, untreated mental illness, or incarceration of a household member, domestic violence, and separation or divorce involving household members, are traumatic experiences that can have a profound effect on a child's developing brain and body and can result in poor physical and mental health during childhood and adulthood, and;

WHEREAS, community understanding and available supports and services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their stress and struggle and move forward, and;

WHEREAS, promoting mental health and wellness leads to higher overall productivity, better educational outcomes, lower crime rates, stronger economies, lower health care costs, improved family life, improved quality of life and increased lifespan, and;

WHEREAS, studies show that the effects of ACEs are felt by people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status, and;

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, faith-based organization, non-profit agency and citizen shares accountability for the community's mental health needs and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts, and;

WHEREAS, the importance of attending to mental health has become even more pronounced in the past two years due to COVID-19, political and social unrest, and the resulting economic crisis. Isolation, sickness, grief, job loss, food instability, and loss of routines have increased the need for mental health services. At the same time, the need to protect people from COVID-19 has made it more challenging for people to access mental health services, and harder for providers to deliver this care, and;

WHEREAS, the Children's Services Council of Palm Beach County recognizes the impact of awareness and education, access to services and acceptance of the importance of mental health and well-being to a person's overall success and supports the implementation of trauma informed approaches throughout the systems of care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY that the following will be observed:

**May 2022 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS  
AND TRAUMA INFORMED CARE MONTH IN PALM BEACH COUNTY**

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Council Member Elisa Cramer, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gregg Weiss, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Thomas Bean	YES
Mike Burke	ABSENT
Elisa Cramer	YES
Vincent Goodman	ABSENT
Kathleen Kroll	YES
Debra Robinson, M.D.	YES
Jose Luis Rodriguez, Esq.	YES
Thomas P. Weber	ABSENT
Gregg Weiss	YES

The Chairman thereupon declared the Resolution duly passed and adopted this 28th day of April, 2022.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

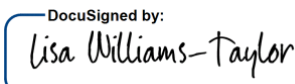
CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

BY:   
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Debra E. Gotlib  
Attorney for Children's Services Council  
of Palm Beach County

BY:   
DocuSigned by: 825D72226FFB405...

Thomas Bean, Chair

BY:   
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Lisa Williams-Taylor, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer