Proclamation

DECLARING MAY 2020 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, 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, health-care provider, faith-based organization, nonprofit 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 Children’ 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 CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY that the following will be observed:

May 2020 – Mental Health Awareness and Trauma-Informed Care Month

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Council Member Tom Weber who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Council Member Melissa McKinlay.

The Chairman thereupon declared this Resolution duly passed and adopted this 23rd day of April, 2020.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY

Debra E. Gotlib
Attorney for Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County

CHILDREN’S SERVICES COUNCIL OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

Thomas Bean, Chair

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