



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental health is defined as emotional and psychological well-being, which allows individuals to work, enjoy satisfying relationships and participate fully in their communities; and

WHEREAS, one in five individuals will have experienced a mental health condition in a given year and half of Americans will experience mental illness during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, studies show that a person's mental health is as important as their physical condition is to their overall wellbeing; and

WHEREAS, the increased stress and social isolation resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in greater levels of anxiety, depression, alcohol and substance use, among other effects; and

WHEREAS, schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses, rank highest overall among diseases in years of life lost to illness, to disability, and to death; and

WHEREAS, mental health awareness, prevention and education programs encourage individuals to seek treatment and support services, and to know that wellness and recovery are possible for all who live with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, great strides have been made in our State to raise awareness about the importance of mental health to prevent suicide, and to advance treatment opportunities for individuals with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's community-based mental health system of care and peer supports is built of strong and dedicated organizations committed to helping individuals with mental illness receive necessary treatment and achieve sustained recovery; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's psychiatric hospitals, including the state-operated psychiatric hospital system, are providing specialized services geared toward patients' successful transition to community living; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's goal is to insure that individuals with mental illness can lead independent, meaningful and fulfilling lives in their communities, while striving to help its citizens cope with the effects of COVID-19;

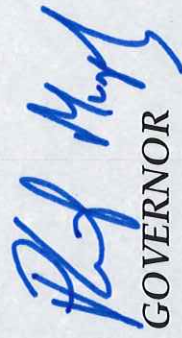
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

OCTOBER 2 THROUGH OCTOBER 8, 2022
AS
MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS WEEK

in New Jersey.




Lt. GOVERNOR


GOVERNOR

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this thirtieth day of September in the year two thousand twenty-two, the two hundred forty-seventh year of the Independence of the United States.