



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS: Mental illness warrants a major public health concern due to the fact that mental health is a fundamental part of a person's overall health and well-being. In the United States, it is estimated that as many as 4 million people suffer from severe mental illness, including 233,000 Georgians; and

WHEREAS: Educating the public about mental illness is essential in the efforts to reduce the stigma that motivates discrimination against those with such disorders. Additionally, cultivating treatment awareness will help people avoid the consequences of untreated anxiety, depression, and other mental illness; and

WHEREAS: Mental health counselors work with Georgians in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, agencies, mental health centers, and in private practice. These experts are sought for their education, training, and experience to consult with business, government, and non-profit organizations that desire to make positive changes to benefit their employees; and

WHEREAS: Licensed professional counselors are highly-trained psychotherapists who evaluate, diagnose, administer, and interpret educational and vocational assessment instruments and other tests, who recommend a course of treatment to assist people with mental illness, developmental disability, or substance abuse, who identify and resolve emotional and mental problems to help them heal and grow and achieve personal goals, so they can enjoy a better quality of life; and

WHEREAS: The Licensed Professional Counselors, LPCs, of Georgia are committed to raising awareness and comprehension of mental health in our state and promoting quality of life. LPCs are accountable to the Georgia Composite Board of Professional Counselors, Social Workers, Marriage, and Family Therapists. Mental Health Awareness Month offers us an opportunity to recognize and thank the members of this field for their important work; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 29th day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Nineteen.



B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Timothy K. Fleming
CHIEF OF STAFF