

# Proclamation

## Office of the Mayor

### Mental Health Awareness Month

**Whereas**, NAMI Broward's Mission is to enhance awareness and provide programs in Broward County that support a world-class system for the treatment and recovery of individuals facing mental health challenges. NAMI Broward delivers support, education, and advocacy to nurture better understanding, coping strategies, and positive outcomes for people and their families navigating the complexities of mental health; and

**Whereas**, mental health conditions are treatable health concerns that are widespread and manageable; and

**Whereas**, comprehensive healthcare encompasses mental health care, which must be accessible to all individuals irrespective of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, values, and cultural beliefs. It is vital that these factors are integrated into treatment, allowing the community to become a bastion of support; and

**Whereas**, the breadth of the mental health crisis affecting both children and adults is profound. One in five adults will encounter a mental health challenge in any given year. Half of all mental health conditions begin at age 14, and 75% by 24 years old. Prompt intervention leads to more favorable outcomes; and

**Whereas**, half of the children and adults living with mental health challenges never receive transformative treatment due to barriers to care and stigma. The resilience and recovery journey of individuals diagnosed with a mental health condition should be celebrated rather than stigmatized; and

**Whereas**, mental health challenges are not criminal issues. Nonetheless, individuals with mental health diagnoses are disproportionately represented in jails and prisons. NAMI commends the implementation of Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement officers, Diversion Programs, and Mobile Crisis Response Teams that effectively reduce involvement in the justice system and enhance safety; and

**Whereas**, individuals experiencing mental health challenges are capable of leading meaningful lives and contributing significantly to society. Communities aid those with mental health challenges by ensuring access to quality care and appropriate support; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Michael J. Ryan, Mayor of the City of Sunrise, Florida, together with the City Commissioners do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 **Mental Health Awareness Month** in the City of Sunrise and encourage all individuals to take action in support of mental health awareness, to offer kindness and understanding to those facing mental health challenges, to seek support when needed, and to be uplifted by NAMI's message: "**YOU ARE NOT ALONE**".



Witness My Hand and Official Seal of  
The City of Sunrise, Florida

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Michael J. Ryan, Mayor