



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, approximately 25 percent of people experience a diagnosable mental health condition in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, mental illness accounts for four of the top ten leading causes of disability; and

WHEREAS, studies show that mental health is a significant component of physical health; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that every dollar invested in evidence-based treatment yields \$2 to \$10 in savings from lost productivity as well as health, criminal justice and other costs; and

WHEREAS, when offered adequate services, wellness and recovery are possible for all who live with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, mental health awareness, prevention and education encourage individuals to seek professional and/or social support; and

WHEREAS, great strides have been made in our state to raise awareness about the importance of mental health 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 state-operated psychiatric hospital system is providing consumer-centered, recovery-oriented treatment geared toward the transition back to successful community living; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey is advancing its goals to provide those with mental illness independent meaningful and productive lives in the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRIS CHRISTIE, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

MAY 2012

AS

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.

GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-sixth day of April in the year two thousand twelve, the two hundred thirty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States.



Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR