



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY IN FLORIDA

WHEREAS, providing comprehensive, coordinated systems of care for children and youth with mental health challenges and their families is a critical responsibility for our communities; and

WHEREAS, meeting mental health care needs today of children, youth, and families is fundamental to the future of Florida; and

WHEREAS, research indicates that early intervention and access to mental health care produce the best outcomes for children, youth, and families; and

WHEREAS, Florida's family-driven, youth-guided, culturally and linguistically competent, and community-based approach to serving children and adolescents enhances care; and

WHEREAS, the Florida First budget invests \$1 billion for the Department of Children and Families to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment services in Florida communities, including \$10.2 million for additional staff at mental health treatment facilities and \$20.4 million for community based services; and

WHEREAS, a day is set apart each year to recognize the importance of our children's mental health and well-being and our responsibility to promote them; and

WHEREAS, on this day, all citizens, agencies, and organizations interested in advancing innovative approaches to mental health care are encouraged to unite and promote effective services and supports for children, youth, and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend greetings and best wishes to all observing May 5, 2016, as *Children's Mental Health Awareness Day in Florida*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this fifth day of May, in the year two thousand sixteen.


Governor