

# City of Holyoke Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Holyoke value their health and mental health and that of their families; therefore, they are proud to support observances such as Children's Mental Health Week; and

**WHEREAS**, one in five children has a diagnosable mental health disorder and one-half of all lifetime instances of mental illness begin before age 14; and even some children and youth with the most intense needs and some who are insured may not receive services; and

**WHEREAS**, children and youth with mental health needs in elementary, middle and high school are more likely to be bullied, absent, suspended, expelled or fail to graduate; and

**WHEREAS**, learning to recognize the early warnings signs of mental health needs and where to obtain the necessary support, assistance and treatment gives children and youth better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the participation and partnership of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and youth is essential to positive outcomes; and

**WHEREAS**, our nation's future depends on the health and well-being of its families and their children; and

**WHEREAS**, Children's Mental Health Week was developed by families of children with emotional, behavioral and mental health needs, to focus on the needs of their children and families; in celebrating this year's theme: "Supporting Families, Changing Futures" it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Holyoke citizens of this important issue.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that I, Mayor Alex B. Morse, do hereby proclaim and designate the week of May 6-12, 2018, as

"Children's Mental Health Awareness Week"

and urge all citizens of Holyoke and surrounding communities to be mindful of this event and participate in its observance.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Official Seal of the City of Holyoke to be affixed.

Signed: Alex Morse  
Alex B. Morse, Mayor

