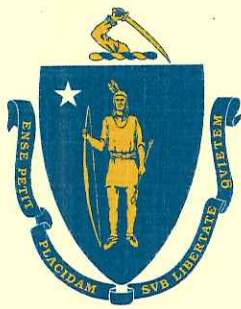


The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

Whereas The citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts value their health and mental health and that of their families; 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 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 warning 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

Whereas In celebrating this year's theme, "Mental Health is Fundamental", it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Massachusetts citizens of this important issue,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim the week of May 3rd to May 9th, 2015, to be,

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this Twenty-Fourth day of April, in the year two thousand and fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-eighth.

BY HIS EXCELLENCY

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Charles Baker".

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Karyn Polito".

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "William Francis Galvin".

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts