

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

Whereas The citizens of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts value their and their family's physical and mental health; and

Whereas Studies show that at least one in five children and adolescents have a mental health disorder. At least one in ten, or about six million children and adolescents nationally, have a serious emotional disturbance; and

Whereas It is important that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about the warning signs of mental health problems and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment; and

Whereas Obtaining a full and accurate diagnosis of a child requires gathering information from diverse sources, including the family, school and those involved with that child or youth; and

Whereas Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health problems among children and adolescents provide them better opportunities to lead full and productive lives. The participation of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents is integral to positive clinical outcomes; and

Whereas Children's Mental Health Week was developed by families of children with emotional, behavioral and mental health needs and this year it is centered around the theme "Celebrating the Diversity and Resiliency of Our Families"; and

Whereas Through public awareness, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts seeks to focus on the needs of children with emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs, along with their families,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May 1st – 7th, 2011, 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 first day of May, in the year two thousand and eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH



God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts