

The City of Boston



PROCLAMATION

- Whereas:** *The residents of the City of Boston value their health and mental health and that of their families and are proud to support observances such as Children's Mental Health Week; AND*
- Whereas:** *17% of children and youth (ages 6-17) live with a mental health condition and 50% 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, and to fail to graduate; AND*
- Whereas:** *Recognizing the early warning signs of mental health needs and obtaining the necessary support, assistance, and treatment gives children and youth better opportunities to lead full and productive lives at home, in schools, and in their communities; AND*
- Whereas:** *The involvement and partnership of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and youth is essential to positive outcomes. 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, "Vision for Health and Happiness," it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Bostonians of this important issue; NOW*
- Therefore:** *I, Martin J. Walsh, Mayor of Boston, do hereby proclaim May 3, 2020, to May 9, 2020, to be:*

Children's Mental Health Awareness Week *in the City of Boston*

I encourage my fellow Bostonians to support our young people and efforts to make mental healthcare accessible to all in the City of Boston and beyond.

MARTIN J. WALSH
MAYOR OF BOSTON

May 3, 2020