



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, good mental health is a key component in a child's healthy development, and Children's Mental Health Awareness Week provides the opportunity to focus on this important matter, while celebrating the accomplishments of children and families affected by mental health concerns; and

Whereas, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children is diagnosed with a mental health condition, with the onset occurring as early as 7 to 11 years old; and

Whereas, research has shown early identification and intervention, starting prenatally and continuing through the lifespan, can minimize the long-term and disabling effects of mental health problems; and

Whereas, children and youth with mental health and substance use problems and their families benefit from access to timely services and supports that are family-driven, youth-guided, and culturally-appropriate; they also benefit from the integration of behavioral health in primary care, education, and child welfare; and

Whereas, educating youth, family members, advocates, volunteers, staff, government officials, community members, voluntary not-for-profit providers, and others about the importance of investing in resources that ensure the mental health and well-being of our children and youth impacts the futures of our youngest citizens, families, and society; and

Whereas, New York State recognizes all individuals and organizations involved in the important work of meeting children's social and emotional development, as well as their educational needs, and acknowledges the importance of public and private partnerships that strengthen the foundation of vital resources for children's behavioral health care;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 5-12, 2015 as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this fourth day
of May in the year two thousand fifteen.

Governor

William J. Maloney
Secretary to the Governor