



RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS,** *today we recognize that mental health is an essential component of overall health and well-being; and*
- WHEREAS,** *nearly one in five adults and teens in the United States live with a mental illness, impacting a person's emotional, social, environmental, financial, and overall well-being, with significant disparities among racially and ethnically diverse communities; and*
- WHEREAS,** *988, the new 3-digit number for the national suicide prevention and mental health crisis line, launched this year and helps reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and seeking help; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Harris County has significantly invested in prevention and early intervention, with the Healthy Minds, Healthy Communities initiative, the behavioral health smart pod, and mental health diversion and reentry services, including youth diversion, the Respite, Rehabilitation, and Reentry Center, and the Clinical and Officer Remote Evaluation (CORE) program; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Harris County joins the call from the National Association of Counties for the federal government to amend the Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy and Institutions for Mental Disease Exclusion Policy to allow Harris County the resources to address our residents' mental health; and*
- WHEREAS,** *we call upon all stakeholders, including policymakers, healthcare providers, and community organizations, to prioritize mental health care, including allocating more resources to increase the workforce in mental health care, and work together to create a more just and compassionate society for all .*

BE IT RESOLVED, *Harris County Commissioners Court declares the month of May as*

Mental Health Awareness Month

ADOPTED *on May 16, 2023.*

Lina Hidalgo
County Judge

Rodney Ellis
Commissioner, Precinct 1

Adrian Garcia
Commissioner, Precinct 2

Tom S. Ramsey, P.E.
Commissioner, Precinct 3

Lesley Briones
Commissioner, Precinct 4

Attest:

Teneshia Hudspeth
County Clerk