



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and*

*WHEREAS, one in five Americans are affected by a mental illness; and*

*WHEREAS, mental disorders, collectively, make mental illness the most prevalent health problem in the United States today – more common than cancer, lung and heart disease combined; and*

*WHEREAS, people with mental illness can recover and lead full, productive lives; and*

*WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and young people with mental health problems are not receiving the help they need; and*

*WHEREAS, untreated or undertreated mental illness costs public and private employers billions of dollars annually through absenteeism, turnover, low productivity and increased medical costs; and*

*WHEREAS, the state of Alabama has made a commitment to community-based systems of mental health care in which all residents can receive high-quality and consumer responsive services; and*

*WHEREAS, the National Mental Health Association, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners observe Mental Health Month each May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness:*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2019, as*

# *Mental Health Month*

*in the state of Alabama.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019.*

*Kay Ivey*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kay Ivey, Governor