



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, mental health is part of overall health and well-being, and the Alabama Department of Mental Health (ADMH) supports essential mental illness and substance use disorder services for more than 140,000 Alabamians through community providers and partnerships; and*

*WHEREAS, fifty percent of mental health disorders begin by age 14 and seventy-five percent of mental health disorders begin by the age of 24; and*

*WHEREAS, all Alabamians experience difficulty and mental health challenges in their lives and should feel comfortable in seeking services and support; and*

*WHEREAS, I support efforts to address mental health needs; and*

*WHEREAS, engaging in prevention, peer services, early intervention and diversion from civil commitment are effective ways to reduce the burden of mental illnesses. With effective treatment, all individuals with mental illnesses and substance use disorders can make progress toward recovery; and*

*WHEREAS, ADMH calls upon citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to increase acceptance, awareness and understanding of mental health;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 2023, as*

# *Mental Health Awareness 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*