



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor Proclamation

State Capital
Boise

WHEREAS, mental health impacts the wellbeing and quality of life of each Idahoan and is integral to building and maintaining a meaningful and joyful life and thriving communities; and

WHEREAS, 30.2% of Idaho adults reported symptoms of anxiety or depressive disorder during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, Idaho ranks 45th in the nation for rate of children with private insurance that does not cover mental or emotional problems, and 18,000 Idaho youth did not receive treatment for depression in the last year; and

WHEREAS, approximately 24.9% of Idaho adults live with a mental health condition, 40,000 Idaho adults with any mental illness are uninsured, and 84,000 Idaho adults experience serious thoughts of suicide; and

WHEREAS, recovery and hope are possible for those living with mental illness and these individuals and their family members deserve affordable access to treatment and resources; and

WHEREAS, education and awareness about mental health conditions and substance use disorders decrease stigma and promote a culture of compassion, understanding, and progress; and

WHEREAS, providing treatment and access to mental health services results in lives saved and brighter futures and is in the best interest of state-wide health outcomes, productivity, and fiscal responsibility; and

WHEREAS, Idahoans are encouraged to pursue needed mental health treatment, provide educated support to struggling loved ones, and offer acceptance to our neighbors living with mental health conditions.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRAD LITTLE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 2023 to be

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in Idaho, and I encourage Idaho citizens to recognize this special observance.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1st day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-seventh, and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred thirty-third.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

PHIL MCGRANE
SECRETARY OF STATE