



Proclamation

WHEREAS, one in six children is diagnosed with a mental health condition in any given year; and

WHEREAS, mental health is an essential part of a child's overall healthy development, and Children's Mental Health Awareness Day provides the opportunity to highlight this issue, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic when children and adolescents face increasing challenges to their social, emotional, and mental well-being; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment; and

WHEREAS, children and adolescents with mental health challenges and their families benefit from access to timely resources and services that are family-driven, youth-guided, and culturally appropriate; and

WHEREAS, children and adolescents also benefit from integration of behavioral health in primary care, education, and child welfare; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that children and adolescents who feel a sense of belonging, support and genuine care at school and home are more likely to experience positive mental health outcomes in adulthood; and

WHEREAS, HelpYourKeiki.com provides Hawai'i's families a go-to website for information about evidence-based treatments and local resources in Hawai'i on children's mental health;

THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor of the **State of Hawai'i**, do hereby proclaim May 6, 2021 as

“CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY”

in Hawai'i and ask citizens of the Aloha State to join me in recognizing the community organizations dedicated to serving children and families and the Children's Mental Health Awareness Planning Group, led by the Hawai'i Department of Health's Child & Adolescent Mental Health Division, for providing leadership on raising awareness of this important health need and promoting positive mental health for our keiki and youth.

Done at the State Capitol in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-first day of April 2021.



DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawai'i