

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall well-being, affecting how individuals think, feel, and act, as well as how they handle stress, relate to others, and make decisions; and

WHEREAS, millions of Americans experience mental health conditions each year, yet stigma and lack of awareness often prevent individuals from seeking the support and treatment they need; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness about mental health promotes understanding, reduces stigma, and encourages open conversations that lead to better support and treatment for those who need it; and

WHEREAS, mental health challenges can affect people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life, and early intervention and access to appropriate care are vital in improving outcomes for individuals and communities; and

WHEREAS, during Mental Health Awareness Month, we recognize the importance of mental well-being, encourage individuals to take proactive steps in managing their mental health, and support efforts to increase access to mental health services and resources; and

WHEREAS, we encourage workplaces, schools, and community organizations to foster environments that promote mental wellness, provide resources for those in need, and advocate for policies that support mental health care;

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Honorable Town Council and Honorable Town Administrator of the Town of Bristol, State of Rhode Island, by virtue of the authority vested in them by the citizens of Bristol do hereby proclaim **May 2025** as **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH** in **Bristol, RI** and encourage all residents to learn more about mental health, support those who are struggling, and work together to break the stigma surrounding mental illness.