

Proclamation

Office of the City Commission



WHEREAS, Mental Illness affects thoughts, feelings, behaviors, and general interaction with others and the stigma associated with Mental Illness must be addressed so that no one feels shame or disgrace in seeking help and treatment; understanding that mental wellness affects 5 in 5, not 1 in 5; and

WHEREAS, recent tragedies in Broward County and nationwide require that our communities engage in meaningful education and discussion to identify the early signs of Mental Illness in order to take charge of the situation and reverse it before it gets worse; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the recent tragedies, according to the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics, suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States, with 45,979 deaths in 2020. This is about one death every 11 minutes. The number of people who think about or attempt suicide is even higher. In 2020, an estimated 12.2 million American adults seriously thought about suicide, 3.2 million planned a suicide attempt, and 1.2 million attempted suicide; and

WHEREAS, according to the Foundation for Suicide Prevention, on average, there are 123 suicides per day in the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, in response to the need for identifying and bringing mental wellness topics forward, a grassroots effort was undertaken by the principal mental health providers in Broward County (including county/federal government, private sector, and nonprofit organizations), to join forces in a historic effort to increase awareness and education by holding an "in-person and virtual summit" with limited tickets for in-person attendance or virtual tickets for viewers to watch from the convenience of their home or office during the 2022 US National Suicide Prevention Week. This week was chosen as the date for all prior Summits as well; and

WHEREAS, the "5th Annual Broward Mental Health Summit," titled **Rising Up-Finding your Balance Through Emotional Freedom & Change**, is presented by Memorial Healthcare System, UKG, Cassel and Cassel Attorneys at Law, Aetna and the Sheriff's Foundation of Broward County, bringing together the leading mental health providers in South Florida from county/federal government, private practice, nonprofits, and academia to discuss and examine the current issues relating to mental health in Broward County affecting all populations; and

WHEREAS, during the Summit, four sessions will be held, Reaffirm, Reassure, Reconnect and Rejuvenate. There will be two zen rooms, notable keynote speaker, Aaron Taylor, CBS Sports Analyst as well as a Veteran speaker, Ben Harrow who will open up the Summit with his moving story of resilience. The Summit is for the general public. It is for anyone who wants to learn about the mental health issues facing our communities, whether you're a healthcare provider, first responder, community leader, business owner, elected official, or just simply a concerned citizen, you'll learn from the in-person and virtual 5th Annual Broward Mental Health Summit. This will be an uplifting and positive focused event.

WHEREAS, the City of Cooper City remains committed to raising awareness in order to combat stigma and educate our community about Mental Illness.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Greg Ross, Mayor of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, and the City Commission, do hereby designate Wednesday September 7, 2022 as

"BROWARD MENTAL HEALTH SUMMIT DAY"

in the City of Cooper City.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Cooper City, Broward County, Florida, to be affixed on this 23rd day of August A.D., 2022.



GREG ROSS
Mayor, City of Cooper City

