



City of Ketchum

## Mental Health Awareness Month Proclamation

- Whereas,** half of the population will experience some type of mental health challenge over the course of a lifetime; and
- Whereas,** mental health challenges are one of the most common health conditions in our nation, affecting one out of five adults, one out of four children, and impacting both the person experiencing mental health challenges and those persons who care and love the person facing the challenge; and
- Whereas,** one out of every twenty-seven Idahoan's with a serious mental illness have difficulty functioning in everyday life and if left untreated, have life expectancies 25 years shorter than the general population; and
- Whereas,** every day, millions of people face stigma related to mental health and may feel isolated and alone, going years before receiving any help; and
- Whereas,** the judicial system has become the default placement of custodial care for people with serious mental illnesses, with 7 out of every 10 youth within Idaho's juvenile justice system having a mental health condition and
- Whereas,** creating a community where everyone feels comfortable reaching out for the support they deserve is crucial to ending the stigma around mental health; and
- Whereas,** through public education and working together to raise awareness, we can help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness, thereby creating a more resilient Blaine County.

**NOW THEREFORE,** I, Neil Bradshaw, Mayor of the City of Ketchum, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month to shine a light on mental health challenges and fight stigma, provide support, educate the public, and advocate for equitable access to care.