

PROCLAMATION

Mental Health Month in the Town of Ponder 2022

WHEREAS addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future of the Town of Ponder; and

WHEREAS the citizens of the Town of Ponder value their overall health and that of their families and fellow citizens and are proud to support observances such as Mental Health Month and Children's Mental Health Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS one in five adults has a diagnosable mental health condition; and

WHEREAS only half of Denton County parents are not familiar with mental health services in their community; and

WHEREAS the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services for individuals and families places upon our community is a critical responsibility; and

WHEREAS there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use, to better handle challenges, and protect their overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS each citizen, local business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, and faith-based organization shares the burden of mental health concerns and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness, recovery, and support prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS the Denton County Behavioral Health Leadership Team, Denton County MHMR Center, United Way of Denton County and the Wellness Alliance for Total Children's Health of Denton County led by Cook Children's, through their unique partnership and prevention-based approaches to serving children and adolescents, are effectively addressing the mental health needs of children, youth, and families in our community; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate that a month should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward mental health education and the support of treatment and recovery; and

WHEREAS it is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward our children's mental health and well-being; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Matthew Poole, Mayor of the Town of Ponder, do hereby proclaim:

May 2022 as *Mental Health Month* and May 7th, 2022 as *Children's Mental Health Awareness Day* and I call upon our citizens and all agencies and organizations interested in meeting every person's mental health needs to unite this month in the observance of such exercises as will commit the people of Ponder to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people mental health conditions.