

1 Introduced by Council Member Diamond:
2
3

4 **RESOLUTION 2021-217**

5 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS
6 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED
7 CARE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN
8 EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to everyone's overall
11 health and well-being; and

12 **WHEREAS**, everyone experiences times of stress and struggles in
13 their lives; and

14 **WHEREAS**, one in four adults and one in five youth ages 13-18
15 experience serious mental illness; and

16 **WHEREAS**, 60 percent of adults and 50 percent of youth do not
17 receive the treatment necessary for their mental health needs due
18 to limited or no knowledge of the need, barriers to care, or fear
19 and shame; and

20 **WHEREAS**, research recognizes that adverse childhood
21 experiences (ACEs), which include, but are not limited to physical,
22 emotional and sexual abuse, physical and emotional neglect,
23 household dysfunction, untreated mental illness, or incarceration
24 of a household member, domestic violence, and separation or divorce
25 involving household members, are traumatic experiences that can
26 have a profound effect on a child's developing brain and body and
27 can result in poor physical and mental health during childhood and
28 adulthood; and

29 **WHEREAS**, community understanding and available supports and
30 services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their
31 stress and struggle and move forward; and

1 **WHEREAS**, promoting mental health and wellness leads to higher
2 overall productivity, better educational outcomes, lower crime
3 rates, stronger economies, lower health care costs, improved family
4 life, improved quality of life and increased lifespan; and

5 **WHEREAS**, studies show that the effects of ACEs are felt by
6 people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual
7 orientation, or socio-economic status; and

8 **WHEREAS**, each business, school, government agency, healthcare
9 provider, faith-based organization, non-profit agency and citizen
10 shares accountability for the community's mental health needs and
11 has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support
12 prevention efforts; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Jacksonville City Council recognizes the impact
14 of awareness and education, access to services and acceptance of
15 the importance of mental health and well-being to a person's
16 overall success and supports the implementation of trauma informed
17 approaches throughout the systems of care; now therefore

18 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

19 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby declares the
20 month of May as Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care
21 month in Jacksonville and urges all citizens to join the national
22 movement to raise awareness about mental health. Citizens are
23 urged to join the fight against stigma associated with mental
24 health illness and to take advantage of resources and opportunities
25 available to them to become more aware of the importance of mental
26 health and well-being to a person's overall success. To that end,
27 the City supports the implementation of trauma informed approaches
28 throughout the systems of care, including support and education for
29 the public, along with advocating for policies that support people
30 with mental illness and their families.

31 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become

1 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
2 without the Mayor's signature.

3

4 Form Approved:

5

6 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

7 Office of General Counsel

8 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

9 GC-#1425781-v1-Diamond_-_May_Mental_Health.docx

10