

1 Introduced by Council Member Diamond and Co-Sponsored by Council  
2 Member Morgan:

3  
4  
5 **RESOLUTION 2020-271**

6 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS  
7 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED  
8 CARE MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; REQUESTING  
9 EMERGENCY PASSAGE UPON INTRODUCTION; PROVIDING  
10 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

14 **WHEREAS**, everyone experiences times of stress and struggles in  
15 their lives; and

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

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

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

31 **WHEREAS**, community understanding and available supports and

1 services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their  
2 stress and struggle and move forward; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 with mental illness and their families.

2           **Section 2.           Requesting emergency passage upon introduction**  
3 **pursuant to Council Rule 4.901 Emergency.** Emergency passage upon  
4 introduction of this legislation is requested. The nature of the  
5 emergency is that May is designated nationally as Mental Health  
6 month and the City Council desires to show its support for the  
7 national dialogue on mental health awareness and wishes to make  
8 strides locally for acceptance and support for individuals within  
9 the local community.

10           **Section 3.           Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become  
11 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
12 without the Mayor's signature.

13  
14 Form Approved:

15  
16 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

17 Office of General Counsel

18 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

19 GC-#1365331-v1-Diamond\_-\_May\_Mental\_Health\_Awareness\_Month.docx

20