

1 Introduced by Council Member Diamond and Co-Sponsor CMs Salem,
2 Freeman, Morgan, Pittman, Newby, Dennis, DeFoor, Priestly Jackson,
3 Boylan & Carlucci:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2021-217-A**

7 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF MAY AS
8 MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED CARE
9 MONTH IN JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
10 DATE.
11

12 **WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health
13 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 to
20 limited or no knowledge of the need, barriers to care, or fear and
21 shame; and

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

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

1 and struggle and move forward; and

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
2 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
3 without the Mayor's signature.

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5 Form Approved:

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7 /s/ Kealey A. West

8 Office of General Counsel

9 Legislation Prepared By: Paige H. Johnston

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