

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS:	mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and
WHEREAS:	mental illness is real and prevalent in our nation, and half of us will have a mental health diagnosis at some point in our lives; and
WHEREAS:	engaging in prevention, early identification, and early intervention are as effective ways to reduce the burden of mental illnesses as they are to reduce the burden of chronic conditions; and
WHEREAS:	there is a strong body of research that identifies behavioral health risks and supports specific tools that all Americans can use to protect their health and well -being; and
WHEREAS:	with effective treatment, all individuals with mental illnesses-even serious mental illnesses-can make progress toward recovery and lead full, productive lives; and
WHEREAS:	jails and prisons have often become the default places of custodial care for even nonviolent people with serious mental illnesses.

NOW, THEREFORE: I, Duke A Bennett, Mayor of the City of Terre Haute, do hereby proclaim May, 2017 as

## MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

with the theme of "Help, Hope, and Healing" Terre Haute. As the Mayor of Terre Haute, I also call upon the citizens, health care providers, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Terre Haute to recommit our community 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.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Terre Haute to be affixed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

Duke A Bennett, Mayor