

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF MANITOWOC

Proclamation

- WHEREAS, Mental Health Month was established in 1949 by Mental Health America to increase awareness of the importance of mental health and wellness in Americans' lives, and to celebrate recovery from mental illness; and
- WHEREAS, the purpose of this recognition is to raise awareness and educate the public about mental illness, including conditions like depression, schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness; and
- WHEREAS, some of the most successful efforts that have promoted acceptance, support, prevention, and recovery from mental health conditions include, but are not limited to, the Affordable Care Act, the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant, the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008, and the Garrett Lee Smith State/Tribal Suicide Prevention Program; and
- WHEREAS, the Affordable Care Act expanded health insurance coverage to approximately 30 million Americans; and an estimated 11 million of these individuals will now have access to substance abuse and/or mental health services; and
- WHEREAS, each May we raise awareness about the importance of mental health and its impact on the well-being of all Americans, including children, adults, families, and communities across our Nation, as well as an opportunity to recognize additional statistics closer to home; and
- WHEREAS, according to the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, in 2020 68,324 people received mental health services in the State of Wisconsin, and 1,234 of those people were right here in Manitowoc County; and
- WHEREAS, while support for individuals with mental illnesses has dramatically increased since the deinstitutionalization movement in the 1940's, there is still much support needed in order to promote recognition and tolerance of mental illnesses; and
- WHEREAS, we are grateful for the local resources whose focus is mental illness that are available to us including Painting Pathways Clubhouse, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and Prevent Suicide, in conjunction with a wide range of mental health therapies and care.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. NICKELS, Mayor of the City of Manitowoc, do hereby proclaim the month of **May 2022**, as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Manitowoc, and recognize Mental Health America's theme for 2022 to be "Back to Basics".



In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Manitowoc to be affixed. Done at City Hall in the City of Manitowoc this 16th day of May, Twenty Twenty-Two.


Justin M. Nickels, Mayor