

City of Commerce City, Colorado



Proclamation



WHEREAS, mental health is fundamental to the overall health of children and adults in the United States as it influences productivity, relationship building, and the ability to adapt to an ever-changing world; and,

WHEREAS, the United States Surgeon General emphasizes the importance of promoting mental health and the early identification of mental illness; and,

WHEREAS, severe mental illness such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, major depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and severe anxiety disorders affect one in every five families; and,

WHEREAS, severe mental illnesses are more common than cancer, diabetes and heart disease and their treatment accounts for 21% of all hospital inpatient treatment on any given day and have overall greater treatment success than chronic physical disorders; and,

WHEREAS, brain disorders remain shrouded in stigma and discrimination from societal prejudice causing those who are affected by severe mental illness to not seek care and be cast as second-class citizens who unfairly receive far less employment opportunities than others suffering from equally debilitating physical disabilities; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Commerce City and its Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Commission takes pride in its history of upholding the dignity and civil rights of all of its citizens, including those with disabilities such as psychiatric illness.

Now, THEREFORE, the City Council of Commerce City hereby declares May 2022 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Commerce City, with the goals of increasing public awareness of the importance of mental health and the impact of severe mental illness and promoting greater understanding and empathy for those who suffer from these disorders.



In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused this seal to be affixed on the second day of May 2022.

CITY OF COMMERCE CITY, COLORADO

Benjamin A. Huseman, Mayor