



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, we are all affected by mental health, and one in four Coloradoans experience mental health conditions or substance use disorders, or both, each year; and

WHEREAS, the stigma against mental health conditions remains one of the greatest barriers to improving the lives of all Coloradans through better mental health; and

WHEREAS, mental health systems of care must be designed to meet the needs of the people being served; and

WHEREAS, 50% of all people with mental health conditions experience them by age 14, and 74% by age 24 and increased focus on the prevention of mental health conditions and substance use disorders among children and adolescents through screening and early intervention helps improve lives; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive, community-based services that respond to individuals with mental health needs are cost-effective and beneficial to consumers and our community; and

WHEREAS, it costs 7 times more to incarcerate someone with mental health issues than to treat them in the community; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong and growing body of evidence that supports the cost effectiveness and benefits to communities that have successfully implemented continuums of mental health care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wade Troxell, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

We also call upon all to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 21st day of May, A.D. 2019.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk