

# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, good social, emotional, and behavioral health is a key component in a child's development and positively impacts children's ability to learn and interact with their peers, as well as reach their full potential; and

**Whereas**, mental health disorders affect one in five children and adolescents, with half of all lifetime mental illnesses beginning by age 14; and

**Whereas**, Children's Mental Health Week provides the opportunity to raise awareness of children's mental health issues to reduce stigma, increase understanding, and encourage early intervention and treatment, while celebrating the resiliency and strength of children, youth, young adults, and families affected by mental health concerns; and

**Whereas**, prevention, early identification, and treatment of social, emotional, and behavioral challenges among children, youth, and young adults provide them better opportunities to lead full and productive lives, and it is important that they, along with their families and communities, learn about mental health disorders and how and where to obtain services and supports; and

**Whereas**, communities across this state and nation recognize the need for increased mental health resources to meet the challenges of younger New Yorkers today, and our Fiscal Year 2024 Executive Budget prioritizes this need by requiring commercial insurance plans to cover services provided by school based mental health clinics, and by investing in programs that address suicide prevention, HealthySteps for childhood development and behavior, Home Based Crisis Intervention, and Eating Disorders; and

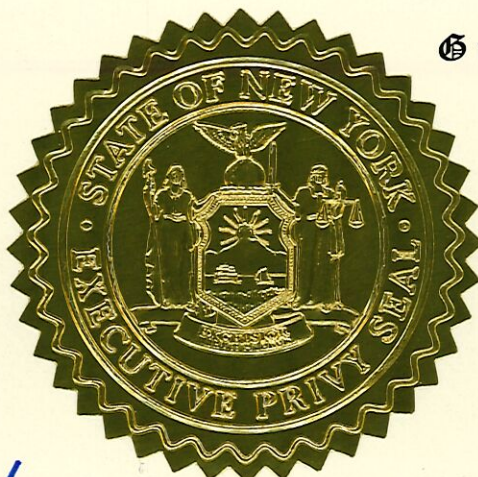
**Whereas**, the annual "What's Great in Our State Celebration of Children's Mental Health Awareness," held during Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, recognizes individuals, schools, programs, and organizations in New York State that have been nominated for their leadership and commitment to bringing positive outcomes for children, youth, and families through effective advocacy; and

**Whereas**, New York State appreciates all those involved in meeting children's social and emotional development, as well as their educational needs, and continues to focus on the importance of collaboration and innovative approaches to serving children and youth and strengthening the foundation of vital resources for our system of care for them;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 7 - 13, 2023 as

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this third day  
of May in the year two thousand twenty-three.

*Kathy Hochul*  
Governor

*Karen Persichilli Keogh*  
Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh