



# 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 affects their ability to learn and interact with their peers, and reach their full potential; and

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

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

**Whereas**, it is important that families and communities learn about mental health disorders and know how and where to obtain services and supports for preventing, identifying, and treating social, emotional, and behavioral challenges affecting children, youth, and young adults so they have opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and

**Whereas**, communities across our state recognize the need for increased mental health resources to meet the challenges of younger New Yorkers; our Fiscal Year 2025 Executive Budget prioritizes this need by providing resources to establish school-based mental health clinics, expanding Youth Assertive Community Treatment Teams, providing teen mental health first aid training, funding loan forgiveness for clinicians serving children, and creating specialized children's community residences and partial hospitalization programs; and

**Whereas**, New York State has strengthened its commitment to youth mental health by establishing a Youth Mental Health Advisory Board and recognizing the invaluable perspectives and insights of young people in shaping effective behavioral health programs and initiatives; and

**Whereas**, New York State's "What's Great in Our State Celebration of Children's Mental Health Awareness," is held annually during Children's Mental Health Awareness Week to recognize 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, young adults, and their families through effective intervention; and

**Whereas**, New York State appreciates all those involved in meeting the social and emotional development of children and their educational needs, and continues to focus on the importance of collaboration, trauma responsive practices, and innovative approaches, while strengthening the foundation of resources available for children, youth, young adults, and their families through the mental health care system;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Kathy Hochul, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim May 5 - 11, 2024 as

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

in the Empire State.



**Given** 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-four.

*Kathy Hochul*  
Governor

*Karen Persichilli Keogh*

Secretary to the Governor  
Karen Persichilli Keogh