

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Broward's Mission is to enhance awareness and provide programs in Broward County that support a world-class system for the treatment and recovery of individuals facing mental health challenges. NAMI Broward delivers support, education, and advocacy to nurture better understanding, coping strategies, and positive outcomes for people and their families navigating the complexities of mental health; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are treatable health concerns that are widespread and manageable; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive healthcare encompasses mental health care, which must be accessible to all individuals irrespective of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, values, and cultural beliefs. It is vital that these factors are integrated into treatment, allowing the community to become a bastion of support; and

WHEREAS, half of the children and adults living with mental health challenges never receive transformative treatment due to barriers to care and stigma. The resilience and recovery journey of individuals diagnosed with a mental health condition should be celebrated rather than stigmatized; and

WHEREAS, mental health challenges are not criminal issues. Nonetheless, individuals with mental health diagnoses are disproportionately represented in jails and prisons. NAMI commends the implementation of Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement officers, Diversion Programs, and Mobile Crisis Response Teams that effectively reduce involvement in the justice system and enhance safety; and

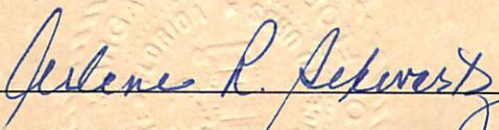
WHEREAS, individuals experiencing mental health challenges are capable of leading meaningful lives and contributing significantly to society. Communities aid those with mental health challenges by ensuring access to quality care and appropriate support services; and

WHEREAS, NAMI Broward County designates the month of MAY as MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH to promote mental health awareness, to inspire those living with mental health challenges to seek SUPPORT, and to be uplifted by our message: "YOU ARE NOT ALONE".

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Arlene R. Schwartz, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim May 2025, as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be affixed this 7th day of May 2025.


ARLENE R. SCHWARTZ, MAYOR