



# Town of East Greenwich State of Rhode Island

## RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

NO. 2019.\_\_\_\_

### RECOGNIZING MAY 2019 AS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives and the National Alliance for Mental Health reports that 1 in 5 adults experiences mental illness during any given year; and

WHEREAS, as 70% of youth in the juvenile justice system suffers from at least one mental health condition and suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for individuals 10-34 years of age; and

WHEREAS, the Town of East Greenwich's Drug Program indicates a significant rise of mental health issues and concerns by youth; and

WHEREAS, the number of youths referred locally for substance abuse issues, who also experience mental health concerns, has risen over the last decade; and

WHEREAS, prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions; and

WHEREAS, there is a strong research that animal companionship, humor, spirituality, religion, recreation, social connections, and work-life balance can help all Americans protect their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment, those individuals with mental health and other chronic health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, sharing personal knowledge and experiences of what living with mental illness means can reduce the barriers and stigma associated with individuals seeking mental health treatment to live a longer, healthier life; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. The Town of East Greenwich, during Mental Health Awareness Month, joins the nation in raising awareness of mental health issues and services and recognizes that mental health is a significant concern; and

2. This resolution shall take effect upon passage.

Attest the seal of the Town Council of the Town of East Greenwich this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 2019.

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Leigh A. Carney, CMC  
Town Clerk

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Mark Schwager, President

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Michael Donegan, Vice President

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Caryn Corenthal, Councilor

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Renu Englehart, Councilor

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Michael Zarrella, Councilor

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