



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

- WHEREAS: Healthy Georgia children and families are our state's most valuable asset; and
- WHEREAS: One in four children and adolescents in the United States suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders that cause significant functional impairment in their day to day lives at home, in school, and with peers. Only 20 percent of children and adolescents with mental disorders are identified and receive mental health services; and
- WHEREAS: It is essential that children and adolescents, along with their families and communities, learn about the warning signs of mental health disorders and where to obtain necessary assistance and treatment. Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children provide better opportunities for them to lead full and productive lives; and
- WHEREAS: The participation of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents is integral to positive clinical outcomes; and
- WHEREAS: Children's Mental Health Week was originally developed nationally by families of youth with emotional, behavioral, and social challenges to focus on the needs of their children and families; and
- WHEREAS: In recognizing this week, it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Georgians relating to this important issue; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 4-10, 2014, as CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand fourteen.



Nathan Deal  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley  
CHIEF OF STAFF