



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

## A PROCLAMATION

### CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

- WHEREAS: Children and families are our state's most valuable asset and keeping them healthy is a priority for Georgia; and
- WHEREAS: One in four children and adolescents in the United States needs mental health treatment. One in ten children suffer from serious emotional and mental disorders that cause significant functional impairment in their day-to-day lives at home, in school, and in interactions with peers; and
- WHEREAS: Many children and adolescents with mental disorders never receive treatment of any kind, leaving them with increased risks of dropping out of school, becoming involved in the Juvenile Justice system, and other troubling life outcomes; and
- WHEREAS: The participation of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and adolescents is integral to ensuring positive clinical outcomes; and
- WHEREAS: Early diagnosis and appropriate treatment of mental health disorders among children provide better opportunities for them to lead full, independent, and productive lives. It is therefore important to educate Georgia communities about the potential warning signs of mental health disorders, as well as awareness of resources to receive necessary assistance and treatment; and
- WHEREAS: Children's Mental Health Week was established to focus on the needs of the children affected by emotional, behavioral, and social challenges and to increase public awareness among all citizens and communities regarding this important issue; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 6-12, 2018, 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



*Nathan Deal*  
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

*Chris W. Riley*  
CHIEF OF STAFF