

PROCLAMATION

GORDON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

MAY AS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH 2018

Whereas, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and
Whereas, mental illnesses are real and prevalent in our nation, and half of us will have a mental health diagnosis at some point in our lives; and
Whereas, all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives, and should feel comfortable in seeking help and support to manage these times; and
Whereas, engaging in prevention, early identification, and early intervention are effective ways to reduce the burden of mental illnesses, as they are to reduce the burden of other chronic conditions; and
Whereas, there is a strong body of research that identifies behavioral health risks and supports specific tools that all Americans can use to protect their health and well-being; and
Whereas, with effective treatment before Stage 4, all individuals with mental illnesses - even serious mental illnesses- can make progress toward recovery and lead full productive lives; and
Whereas, jails and prisons have often become the default places of custodial care for even nonviolent people with serious mental illnesses; and
Whereas, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen has a responsibility to promote mental health and well-being for all.

THEREFORE, the Gordon County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims May 2018 as **Mental Health Month** in Gordon County and calls upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses at all stages, and especially before stage 4.

Signed the first day of May in the year of our Lord, two thousand and eighteen.

GORDON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Becky Hood, Chairman