## Proclamation

WHEREAS, good mental health is essential to the overall health and emotional wellbeing of all children, youth, adults and families; and promotes a healthy community; and

WHEREAS, nearly one in four people in our communities experience a mental health condition each year; and

WHEREAS, more than 17% of individuals in our communities experience substance use disorder each year including alcohol and drug use; and

WHEREAS, the lack of awareness of where to seek support, and stigma against mental health conditions and substance use disorders prevents many people from accessing care; and

WHEREAS, when mental health problems and substance use disorders are detected early and treated, people can recover and maintain a healthy and independent life; and

WHEREAS, increased focus on the prevention of mental health conditions and substance use disorders among children, adolescents, and adults through screening and early intervention helps reduce suffering and improve lives, and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that all members of our community, irrespective of age, gender expression, sexual identification, race, culture, ethnic background, education, or economic status, have equitable access to essential care, support, and services for mental health and substance use conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Black Hawk is dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of its citizens and employees by increasing awareness, ending stigma, and focusing on the integral role of mental health in all our lives,

THEREFORE, I, David D. Spellman, Mayor of the City of Black Hawk, do hereby proclaim

May 2024

as

## Mental Health Month

and call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our communities and resources to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, providing appropriate and accessible services for all citizens, and making mental health a priority.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Black Hawk, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of April, in the year two thousand twenty-four, in the two hundred forty-eight year of the Independence of the United States.

Mayor David D. Spellman