

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, mental health is important to our overall health and affects how we think, feel, act, and relate to others; and,

*Whereas*, 1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year and in South Dakota, 30,000 adults have a serious mental illness and 7,000 youth ages 12-17 have depression; and,

*Whereas*, good mental health is critical to the well-being of families, communities, schools, and businesses; and,

*Whereas*, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and,

*Whereas*, by working together we can raise awareness of mental illness, available resources, fight stigma, and provide support for those affected; and,

*Whereas*, with effective treatment, individuals with mental illness can recover and lead full productive lives:

*Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim May 2022, as

***MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH***

in South Dakota.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this nineteenth day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Two.



*Kristi Noem*, Governor

Attest:

*Steven J. Barnett*  
Steven J. Barnett, Secretary of State