

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA
★
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, 1 in 5 Americans live with a mental health condition; and

WHEREAS, the mental health of all Arizonans is vital to our communities' overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are not only common, they are treatable, and often preventable; and

WHEREAS, persons of all ages, races, ethnicities, and socio-economic background may experience a mental illness in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 8th leading cause of death in Arizona; and

WHEREAS, fears of social rejection, discrimination, and personal shame often prevent persons experiencing mental illnesses from seeking help, support, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, stigma contributes to increased fear, shame, marginalization and violence against persons experiencing mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, stigma is often perpetuated through the language used when speaking of mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, stigma reduction involves listening to persons experiencing mental illnesses and changing the language we use when speaking of and with them; and

WHEREAS, stigma reduction is a responsibility of all citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

and call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, and businesses in Arizona to support those experiencing mental illness and to commit to stigma reduction.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this eighteenth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Second.

ATTEST:

Michelle Reagan

SECRETARY OF STATE