

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, Marion County, Florida includes a growing number of older Americans who have built resilience and strength over their lives through successes and difficulties, including dealing with mental health issues and the persistent stigmas thereof; and

WHEREAS, Marion County, Florida benefits when people of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds are included and encouraged to share their successes and stories of resilience, including overcoming obstacles faced in dealing with mental illness; and

WHEREAS, Marion County, Florida recognizes our need to nurture ourselves, reinforce our strength, and continue to thrive in times of both joy and trouble; and

WHEREAS, Marion County, Florida can foster communities of strength by:

- cultivating community partnerships that result in easy access to services that help people of all ages affected by mental health problems;
- engaging older adults through education, recreation, and services;
- and encouraging people of all ages to celebrate connections and resilience;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **May, 2021** be known as

“OLDER AMERICANS AND MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH”

and urges every resident to recognize older adults and the people who support them as essential contributors to the strength of our community and to ensure straightforward access is provided for needed services in treating mental health problems when they arise.

DULY PROCLAIMED this 18th day of **May, 2021**.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

JEFF GOLD, CHAIRMAN

CARL ZALAK, III, VICE CHAIR

KATHY BRYANT, COMMISSIONER

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER