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### Proclamation in Recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month

**Whereas**, mental health is important for our individual well-being and vitality, as well as that of our families, communities and businesses; and

**Whereas**, one in five Americans experience a mental health illness that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and

**Whereas**, one in 10 children has a serious emotional disturbance that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance use, jail, and even suicide; and

**Whereas**, stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illnesses often keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life; and

**Whereas**, mental illness is a biologically based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through "will power" and is not related to a defect in a person's "character" or intelligence; and

**Whereas**, mental health recovery is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people with mental illness to live in a community of his or her choice while striving to achieve his or her full potential; and

**Whereas**, mental health recovery not only benefits individuals with mental health disorders by focusing on their abilities to live, work, learn and fully participate and contribute to our society, but also enriches the culture of our community life; and

**Whereas**, the City of Rochester Hills through resources like the Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority is committed to inspiring hope, empowering people, and strengthening our community.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, that the Mayor and City Council hereby recognizes May 2018 as Mental Health Month in Rochester Hills and we call upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to commit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses to promote recovery.