PROCLAMATION
MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH
MAY 2021

WHEREAS, the **mental health** of every citizen, family, business owner and resident of Stuart is a critical factor in its emotional and economic **stability**; and

WHEREAS, 44 million American adults, roughly 18%, are living with a **mental health illness** and 13% of American youth, aged 12 – 17, are living with major depression; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, COVID-19 depression, anxiety and substance abuse doubled from the previous year's finding of one in five adults to two in five adults who are dealing with **mental health** issues, roughly translating from 20% - 40% of Americans needing mental health services; and

WHEREAS, the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** predicts that the psychiatric impact of a disaster will hit a community approximately 18 months after the disaster; and

WHEREAS, stigma remains the primary obstacle to getting help; and

WHEREAS, as community leaders, we must prepare for an increase in demand on services through education, outreach and ever greater access to care to ensure our community's overall health and it is the duty of each and every one of us to provide continued consistent access to resources to **mental health** care.

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Stuart strive to be a community who supports mental wellness, including greater access to treatment, increasing educational tools and resources for our citizens, and continually supporting those citizens with **mental health** opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EULA R. CLARKE, as Mayor of the City of Stuart, Florida do hereby proclaim in the City of Stuart, Florida the month of May 2021, as:

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Stuart, Florida to be affixed this _____ day of May, 2021.

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EULA R. CLARKE
MAYOR