



# Proclamation



Mayor Lavelle Proclaims May 2018 Mental Health Month in Carrboro

WHEREAS, since 1949, May has officially been observed as Mental Health Awareness Month across the U.S. A mental illness is a disorder of the brain – your body’s most important organ. And one in four adults experience mental illness in a given year, including depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, and PTSD; and

WHEREAS, the National Alliance of Mental Health (NAMH) of North Carolina has secured better funding for research. NAMH has attained mental health parity to ensure that mental illness is treated equally to physical illness in most insurance plans, and provided protective access to treatments and services; and

WHEREAS, Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 eliminates the practice of unequal health treatment and improves access to much needed mental health and substance use disorder treatment services through more equitable insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the National Alliance of Mental Health (NAMH) of North Carolina is to provide support, education, advocacy, and public awareness so all affected by mental illness can build better lives; and

WHEREAS, Actress, Mental Health Advocate, and the Founder of Bring Change 2 Mind (BC2M) Glenn Close once said, " It is an odd paradox that a society, which can now speak openly and unabashedly about topics that were once unspeakable, still remains largely silent when it comes to mental illness."

WHEREAS, it is up to us as public servants, community members, and philanthropists, to spread awareness and help break the silence and stigma associated with mental illness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, on behalf of the Town of Carrboro do hereby proclaim, May 2018 as “Carrboro Mental Health Month.” I urge all residents of Carrboro to consider how they might help change the stigma associates with mental illness in the coming year.

This the 15th day of May, 2018

Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor

