



**TOWN OF BLUFFTON
NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS PROCLAMATION**

Whereas, during the month of May, a national health observance is dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around the mental health and wellness of youth and adults; and

Whereas, rates of substance use and reports of depression, suicidal thoughts and attempts, and serious mental illnesses have increased; and

Whereas, one out of five children experience a mental health disorder in a given year; and half of all lifetime cases of mental illness and substance use begin by age 14 and three-fourths by age 24; and

Whereas, youth and adults who suffered with social isolation, fear, anxiety, loss, and uncertainty during COVID-19 continue to suffer from or may be at-risk for mental and/or substance use disorders; and

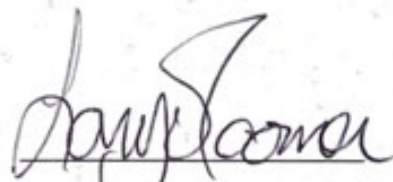
Whereas, national and local campaign goals are to promote and disseminate quality substance use prevention and mental health promotion resources; and

Whereas, this national month of awareness celebrates the efforts of communities and organizations coming together to raise awareness about the importance of mental well-being; and

Whereas, the Town Council of Bluffton, SC joins and supports the efforts of the LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth Coalition and its youth coalition, Teens for Healthy Youth, in raising awareness, combatting stigma, and promoting mental health and wellness, issues the following proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Larry C. Toomer, Mayor of the Town of Bluffton along with Town Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May as **Mental Health Awareness Month** in the Town of Bluffton.




Larry C. Toomer, Mayor