

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, the mental health of South Carolinians is essential to the continued well-being and vitality of our families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health issues affect people regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, people with mental illnesses can recover when provided the necessary services and supports in their communities; and

WHEREAS, only one out of two people with a serious form of mental illness seeks treatment; and

WHEREAS, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and

WHEREAS, greater public awareness about mental illnesses can help change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 observance of Mental Health Month will help raise awareness of the importance of mental health and the stigma people with mental illness face while delivering the message that, with proper treatment, recovery is possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to increase understanding of mental illness and to raise awareness of the need for appropriate and accessible mental health services.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Henry McMaster".

**HENRY McMASTER**  
**GOVERNOR**  
**STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA**