

**PROCLAMATION
MENTAL HEALTH MONTH
MAY 2007**

WHEREAS, One in five (20 percent) of all Americans will experience a mental disorder that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, Stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illnesses can keep those living with such an illness from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life and help them manage the illness effectively; and

WHEREAS, Mental illnesses are biologically based brain disorders. They cannot be overcome through “will power” and are not related to a person’s “character” or intelligence; and

WHEREAS, Mental health is critical for our well-being and vitality as well as that of our families, communities and businesses; and

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization has found that mental illness ranks first in terms of causing disability in the United States and is the most prevalent health problem in America today; and

WHEREAS, One in 10 children has a serious mental health disorder that, if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance abuse and even suicide; and

WHEREAS, Mental illnesses are common to all countries and cause immense suffering. People with these disorders are often subjected to social isolation, poor quality of life and increased mortality; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Troy hereby proclaims May 2007 as Mental Health Month in the City of Troy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Troy calls upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

Signed this 14th day of May 2007.