

Warren County Board of Supervisors

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Millions of people suffer from mental illness annually, with an estimated 1 in 5 Americans battling some form of mental health issue and 1 in 20 suffering from serious mental illness, and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has created a global crisis for mental health, fueling short- and long-term stresses and undermining the mental health of millions. Estimates put the rise in both anxiety and depressive disorders at more than 25% during the first year of the pandemic. As this occurred, mental health services have been severely disrupted and the treatment gap for mental health conditions has widened, and

WHEREAS, A loved one's mental illness has ripple effects throughout family life, affecting all walks of society, including our medical communities and workforces in particular, and

WHEREAS, The Warren County Board of Supervisors recognized the need for improved mental health care in our community by allocating \$1 million in federal COVID recovery funds for use by mental health agencies, and

WHEREAS, Mental health treatment such as therapy, medication and self-care have made recovery a reality for most people experiencing mental illness, but taking the first steps can be confusing or difficult for many, and

WHEREAS, Stigma and discrimination continue to be a barrier to social inclusion and access to the right care; importantly, we can all play our part in increasing awareness about which preventive mental health interventions work and World Mental Health Day is an opportunity to do that collectively, and

WHEREAS, October 10th is annually recognized as World Mental Health Day, and this year's theme is "Make Mental Health & Well-being For All a Global Priority", now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that I, Kevin Geraghty, Chairman, upon a majority vote of the Warren County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim October 10, 2022 to be

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY IN WARREN COUNTY

as we continue to work toward improving our mental health treatment system and erasing the stigmas that remain for those seeking care.

DATED: OCTOBER 6, 2022

**KEVIN B. GERAGHTY, CHAIRMAN
WARREN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**