

County of Maui

Proclamation

WHEREAS, mental health is an important public health issue that we should discuss with youth, adults, and families in our communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health is just as important as physical health, and acceptance of those who struggle reduces fear, worry, blame, and shame that families and their loved ones experience; and

WHEREAS, talking about mental health destigmatizes people's view of it and increases the likelihood that those who are struggling will seek help and accept resources, services, and support; and

WHEREAS, this year's Children's Mental Health Acceptance Week theme of "Accept. Advocate. Act." is meant to raise awareness about the importance of children's mental health and show that positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development; and

WHEREAS, bias and discrimination toward individuals who experience mental health challenges create a barrier to seeking treatment; and

WHEREAS, one in five youth has a mental, emotional, developmental, or behavioral disorder; one in five adults live with mental illness; and one in five adults ages 55 years or older experience some type of mental health concern; and

WHEREAS, the Maui Family Guidance Center provided services to 388 youth and their families over the past year and continues to serve our community;

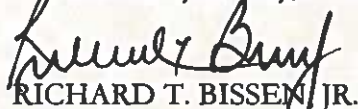
NOW, THEREFORE, I, RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR., Mayor of the County of Maui, do hereby proclaim May 7 to 13, 2023 as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH ACCEPTANCE WEEK

throughout the County of Maui, and urge residents to advocate and act to foster acceptance of children's mental health challenges.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the County of Maui to be affixed hereto.

DONE at Wailuku, Maui, Hawai'i,
on this 7th day of May, 2023.


RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor, County of Maui

