

**REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION**

**HENDERSON COUNTY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**MEETING DATE:** May 6, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Proclamation – Mental Health Awareness Month – May 2024

**PRESENTER:** Board of Commissioners

**ATTACHMENTS:** Yes  
1.) Proclamation

**SUMMARY OF REQUEST:**

The Henderson County Board of Commissioners is requested to proclaim May as Mental Health Awareness Month. They are also requested to light up the Historic Courthouse in green, the official color of Mental Health Awareness Month.

**BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:**

The Board is requested to adopt the attached Proclamation as presented, and to light up the Historic Courthouse in green, the official color of Mental Health Awareness Month.

**SUGGESTED MOTION:**

*I move that the Board adopt the attached Proclamation designating the month of May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Henderson County and to light up the Courthouse in green to draw attention to the cause.*

# Henderson County Board of Commissioners

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**Rebecca K. McCall**  
Chairman  
**J. Michael Edney**  
Vice-Chairman



**William G. Lapsley**  
**Daniel J. Andreotta**  
**David H. Hill**

## Proclamation

### Mental Health Awareness Month – May 2024

- WHEREAS,** Mental Health Awareness Month is part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness of mental health illnesses, reduce the stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health, increase awareness of tools and resources to prevent such challenges and promote recovery; and
- WHEREAS,** mental health is essential to everyone’s overall health, safety, and well-being; and
- WHEREAS,** all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives; and
- WHEREAS,** mental illnesses are real and prevalent in our nation, state, and community and nearly one in five Americans live with a mental health condition; and
- WHEREAS,** mental health has been identified as a priority in Henderson County’s 2021 Community Health Assessment and by the Henderson County Partnership for Health; and
- WHEREAS,** those living with mental health conditions are family, friends, classmates, neighbors, and coworkers, and addressing the complex mental health needs of our citizens and families today is fundamental to the future of Henderson County; and
- WHEREAS,** prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental illnesses; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a strong body of research that supports specific tools that all Americans can use to better handle challenges and protect their health and well-being; and
- WHEREAS,** with early and effective treatment, those individuals with mental illnesses can recover and lead full, productive lives; and
- WHEREAS,** each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization, and citizen share the burden of mental illnesses and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** we, the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Henderson County. As the governing body for Henderson County, North Carolina, we call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools in Henderson County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses at all stages, and to ensure that our community members who are struggling know they are not alone.

Adopted this 6th day of May 2024.

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
DENISA A. LAUFFER, CLERK TO THE BOARD

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REBECCA MCCALL, CHAIRMAN