



WHEREAS, addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future of Illinois; and,

WHEREAS, children's mental health is important, and positive mental health is essential to a child's healthy development from birth; and,

WHEREAS, nearly half of all childhood-onset mental health concerns can be linked to experiencing trauma; one out of every 10 children or adolescents has a serious mental health problem, and another one out of 10 children has mild to moderate problems; and,

WHEREAS, care coordination is vital to successfully treating the whole child, not just his or her mental health; and,

WHEREAS, the Illinois Department of Human Services, through its collaborative relationships with the Departments of Child and Family Services, Healthcare and Family Services, Juvenile Justice, Public Health, and the Illinois State Board of Education, continue to develop a system of care infrastructure to support the unique needs of children, adolescents, and their families when a child is at risk for or diagnosed with a mental health issue, to ensure success at home, school, and in the community; and,

WHEREAS, the theme for 2017's National Children's Mental Health Awareness Day is "Partnering for Help and Hope" and will focus on the importance of integrating behavioral health and primary care for children, youth, and young adults with mental and/or substance use disorders; and,

WHEREAS, communities, organizations, public educators, and law enforcement officials across the country will recognize Children's Mental Health Awareness Day 2017 with the goal of increasing the understanding of the importance of the connection between physical and behavioral health;

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim May 4, 2017, as **CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY** in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Deese White

SECRETARY OF STATE

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTIETH *day of* APRIL *, in*
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
SEVENTEEN *, and of the State of Illinois,*
one hundred and NINETY-NINTH *.*

Bruce Rauner

GOVERNOR