



Whereas, according to the United States Department of Health and Human Services, one in five children is diagnosed with a mental health condition; and

Whereas, good mental health is a key component in a child's healthy development and Children's Mental Health Week shines the light on this important matter; and

Whereas, research has shown that early identification and appropriate treatment of mental health conditions among children and youth, and the involvement of family members in their care and treatment, provide children and youth better opportunities for full and meaningful lives; and

Whereas, early identification and treatment includes timely services and supports for children and youth from a fully integrated team of diverse resources including their families, physicians, schools, and local communities; and

Whereas, appropriate treatment is family-driven, youth guided, culturally appropriate, and equitable across varying communities and populations; and

Whereas, appropriately treating the mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future of our nation, and to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;

Now, Therefore, we, the Board of Selectmen of Winchendon, Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim **May 7th - May 13th, 2023** as

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

and urge our citizens, businesses and organizations to promote this year's theme:

Accept, Advocate, Act – Because Awareness Is Not Enough

in order to help increase equitable access to appropriate treatment and support for children, youth and their families with mental health needs.

Audrey LaBrie, Chairman

Barbara Anderson, Selectman

Danielle LaPointe, Selectman

Rick Ward, Vice-Chairman

Amy Salter, Selectman

4/24/2023

Date