CITY OF NORTHAMPTON  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  

CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK  
Supporting Families, Changing Futures  
May 6-12, 2018  

WHEREAS, the citizens of Northampton value their health and mental health and that of their families; therefore, they are proud to support observances such as Children’s Mental Health Week; and  

WHEREAS, one in five children has a diagnosable mental health disorder and one-half of all lifetime instances of mental illness begin before age 14; and even some children and youth with the most intense needs and some who are insured may not receive services; and  

WHEREAS children and youth with mental health needs in elementary, middle and high school are more likely to be bullied, absent, suspended, expelled or fail to graduate; and  

WHEREAS learning to recognize the early warning signs of mental health needs and where to obtain the necessary support, assistance and treatment gives children and youth better opportunities to lead full and productive lives; and  

WHEREAS, the participation and partnership of family members in the assessment and treatment of children and youth is essential to positive outcomes; and  

WHEREAS, our nation’s future depends on the health and well-being of its families and their children; and  

WHEREAS, Children’s Mental Health Week was developed by families of children with emotional, behavioral and mental health needs, to focus on the needs of their children and families; in celebrating this year’s theme: “Supporting Families, Changing Futures” it is fitting to increase public awareness among all Northampton citizens of this important issue;  

NOW, THEREFORE I, David J. Narkewicz, Mayor of Northampton, do hereby proclaim May 6th-12th as CHILDREN’S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK in our city. I urge residents and all organizations interested in meeting each child’s mental health needs to unite during this week in the observance of such exercises as will make clear to our community the fundamental necessity of a year-round program for children and youth with mental health needs and their families.  

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the seal of the City of Northampton, this 6th day of May, in the year 2018.  

David J. Narkewicz, Mayor