

Proclamation



**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BRAIN INJURY AWARENESS MONTH
March 2019**

- WHEREAS,** Every 9 seconds, someone in the United States sustains a brain injury; and,
- WHEREAS,** More than 3.5 million children and adults sustain an acquired brain injury, but the true total is unknown since so many go unreported; and,
- WHEREAS,** At least 5.3 million Americans live with long term disability as a result of Traumatic Brain Injury; and,
- WHEREAS,** The leading cause of traumatic Brain Injuries are falls and motor vehicle crashes; and
- WHEREAS,** Brain injury does not discriminate; it is unpredictable in its consequences affecting who we are, the way we think, act and feel in a matter of seconds; and
- WHEREAS,** There are many ways to reduce the chances of traumatic brain injury including wearing seatbelts while in any motorized vehicle, using appropriate headgear for sports participation, removing hazards from the home, making living areas safer, and performing regular safety checks in recreational area; and
- WHEREAS,** Improved treatment, better access to care, education and responsible legislation are major considerations when addressing needs surrounding brain injury, but the most powerful tool is prevention, and

**NOW,
THEREFORE,**

I, **Mayor David J. Narkewicz**, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2019 to be **Brain Injury Awareness Month** in Northampton.

Let us support organizations and programs that assist residents with traumatic brain injury along with their families, but also educate our community about the extent, causes, consequences, treatment and prevention of traumatic brain injury.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and imprinted the City seal, this 21st day of February in the year of 2019.



Mayor David J. Narkewicz