

**PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 2022 AS
“MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH”**

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to the well being and the vitality of our families, businesses, and communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our nation with 1 out of 5 Americans and 1 out of 5 children affected by mental illness.

WHEREAS, more people die from suicide in the United States than from traffic accidents and an estimated 22 veterans die from suicide each day.

WHEREAS, stigma and fear of discrimination keep many who would benefit from mental health services from seeking help; and

WHEREAS, with effective treatment those individuals with mental health conditions can recover and lead full, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, education, compassion, and awareness about mental illness can change negative attitudes and behaviors toward people with mental illness.

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, law enforcement agency, healthcare provider, organization and citizen shares the responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Town of New Paltz does hereby proclaim the month of May 2022, as **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH**.

As the Supervisor, I also call upon all Town of New Paltz citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all individuals.

- Town Supervisor