State of Iowa

Executive Department

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, GOOD MENTAL HEALTH IS ESSENTIAL TO EVERYONE'S OVERALL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING; AND

WHEREAS, GOOD MENTAL HEALTH IS CRITICAL FOR THE WELL-BEING AND VITALITY OF OUR FAMILIES, BUSINESSES, AND COMMUNITIES; AND

WHEREAS, MENTAL ILLNESS WILL STRIKE ONE IN FIVE ADULTS IN A GIVEN YEAR, REGARDLESS OF GENDER, RACE, ETHNICITY, RELIGION, OR ECONOMIC STATUS; AND

WHEREAS, THESE PROBLEMS ARE REAL AND PAINFUL, AND CAN INTERFERE WITH THE WAY YOUNG ADULTS THINK, FEEL, AND ACT; AND

WHEREAS, IF UNTREATED, MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS CAN LEAD TO FAILURE AT SCHOOL, FAMILY CONFLICTS, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, VIOLENCE, OR SUICIDE; AND

WHEREAS, MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS CAN LIMIT AN INDIVIDUAL'S CURRENT AND FUTURE ABILITY TO LIVE A PRODUCTIVE LIFE; AND

WHEREAS, INCREASED PUBLIC AWARENESS OF MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES MAY LEAD TO EARLIER RECOGNITION AND TREATMENT AND REDUCE THE STIGMA ASSOCIATED WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHESTER J. CULVER, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF IOWA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF MAY, 2009, AS

MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

IN IOWA, AND I CALL UPON ALL CITIZENS, GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS, BUSINESSES, AND SCHOOLS IN IOWA TO RECOMMIT OUR STATE TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND UNDERSTANDING OF MENTAL ILLNESSES AND THE NEED FOR APPROPRIATE AND ACCESSIBLE SERVICES FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE-UNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 27TH DAY OF APRIL IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND NINE.

CHESTER J. CULVER
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

MICHAEL A. MAURO
SECRETARY OF STATE