



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
ROCK SPRINGS, WYOMING

Proclamation



WHEREAS: Mental health is important for our individual well-being and vitality, as well as that of our families, communities, and businesses; and

One in five Americans experience a mental health illness that requires treatment at some point in their lives; and

One in ten children has a serious emotional disturbance, and if untreated, can lead to school failure, physical illness, substance use, jail, or even suicide; and

Stigma and stereotypes associated with mental illnesses often keep people from seeking treatment for themselves or their children, which could improve their quality of life; and

Mental illness is a biologically based brain disorder that cannot be overcome through "will power" and is not related to a defect in a person's "character" or intelligence; and

Mental health recovery is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people with a mental illness to live in a community of his or her choice while striving to achieve their full potential; and

Mental health recovery not only benefits individuals with mental health disorders by focusing on their abilities to live, work, learn, and participate in, or contribute to, our society, but also enriches the culture of our community life; and

The City of Rock Springs is committed to inspiring hope, empowering people, and strengthening communities through raising awareness and eliminating the stigma that mental health carries.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that I, Timothy A. Kaumo, Mayor of the City of Rock Springs, do hereby declare the month of **May 2022** to be

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

in Rock Springs, Wyoming, and call upon our citizens, other government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness, and recognizing the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses to promote recovery.

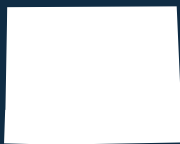
**In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand
and caused the seal of this city to be affixed.**

Mayor _____

Date _____



1 in 5 U.S. adults experience mental illness each year.



88,000 adults in Wyoming have a mental health condition.



That's more than **2X** the population of Laramie.

It is more important than ever to build a stronger mental health system that provides the care, support and services needed to help people build better lives.



More than half of Americans report that **COVID-19** has had a **negative impact** on their mental health.

In February 2021, **40.2% of adults in Wyoming** reported symptoms of **anxiety or depression**.

19.3% were unable to get needed counseling or therapy.



1 in 20 U.S. adults experience serious mental illness each year.

In Wyoming, **21,000 adults** have a **serious mental illness**.



1 in 6 U.S. youth aged 6–17 experience a **mental health disorder** each year.

7,000 Wyomingites age 12–17 have depression.

Wyomingites struggle to get the help they need.



More than half of people with a mental health condition in the U.S. **did not receive any treatment** in the last year.

Of the **20,000 adults in Wyoming who did not receive needed mental health care**, **52.6%** did not because of cost.

12.3% of people in the state are uninsured.



Wyomingites are over **2x more likely to be forced out-of-network** for mental health care than for primary health care — making it more difficult to find care and less affordable due to higher out-of-pocket costs.

561,187 people in Wyoming live in a community that **does not have enough mental health professionals**.

An inadequate mental health system affects individuals, families and communities.



High school students with depression are more than **2x more likely to drop out** than their peers.

44.3% of Wyomingites age 12–17 who have depression **did not receive any care** in the last year.



612 people in Wyoming are homeless and **1 in 8 live with a serious mental illness.**



On average, 1 person in the U.S. **dies by suicide every 11 minutes.**

In Wyoming, **147 lives were lost to suicide** and 22,000 adults had thoughts of suicide in the last year.

1 in 4 people with a serious mental illness has been arrested

by the police at some point in their lifetime –



leading to over **2 million jail bookings** of people with serious mental illness each year.

About **2 in 5 adults** in jail or prison have a history of mental illness.



7 in 10 youth in the juvenile justice system have a mental health condition.



National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI Wyoming is part of NAMI, National Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness.

This fact sheet was compiled based on data available in February 2021. For full citations, visit: nami.org/mhpolicystats.