

# EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

*On Behalf of the Residents of Anne Arundel County, Maryland*

**WHEREAS**, In honor of Mental Health Awareness Month, Anne Arundel County recognizes the importance of the overall health and well-being of our families, communities, schools, and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, Everyone has experienced times of difficulty and stress in their personal and professional lives, and community understanding and available supports and services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their stress and move forward; and

**WHEREAS**, Mental illnesses are real and prevalent in our nation, and while fear and discrimination hinder many individuals from seeking the help they need, preventative efforts and public awareness are effective ways to reduce the stigma of mental illness and seeking treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, Promoting mental health and wellness leads to higher overall productivity, better educational outcomes, lower crime rates, stronger economies, and improved quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, every business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, faith-based organization, non-profit agency, and community member plays a role in our community's mental health needs and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, STEUART L. PITTMAN, County Executive, do hereby proclaim May, 2023 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Anne Arundel County and call upon all of our residents to support mental wellness for all. Given Under My hand and the Great Seal of Anne Arundel County this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of May in the Year of the Lord, Two Thousand Twenty Three.



**STEUART L. PITTMAN**  
*County Executive*  
*May 1, 2023*