

# *Proclamation*

## MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH 2025

**WHEREAS**, mental illnesses are common in the United States and across the world. They do not discriminate based on one's age, income, education, religion, race, or place of residence; and

**WHEREAS**, mental illnesses are prevalent among adults (23.1% of the U.S. adult population), young adults (36.2% of people ages 18-25 in the U.S.), and adolescents (49.5% of people ages 13-18 in the U.S.). Tens of thousands of Larimer County residents have reported poor mental health and an inability to access needed behavioral health care in past community surveys; and

**WHEREAS**, barriers to behavioral health care in Larimer County are identified as the cost of care, timely access to providers in our community, stigma around seeking help, transportation issues, and a lack of insurance coverage for services; and

**WHEREAS**, access to necessary medication, appropriate treatment, care coordination, and responsive peer support help prevent individuals from populating emergency rooms and jails, which are often the default locations for people with acute mental health and substance use needs; and

**WHEREAS**, We envision that Larimer County becomes a community where people are empowered and supported in accessing a full range of behavioral health services that promote well-being for all; and

**WHEREAS**, In recent years, Larimer County saw declines in the rates of suicide and overdoses; these numbers represent people, and every person's life matters. This is cause for celebration but also a reminder that success in this work is qualitative and quantitative; and,

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, William Karspeck, Mayor of Town of Berthoud, do hereby proclaim May as Mental Health Awareness Month in the Town of Berthoud recognizing that mental health is a fundamental component of overall well-being and is essential to living a healthy and productive life – full of joy, dignity, and purpose.

Given under my hand in these free United States in the Town of Berthoud, on this 13th day of May 2025, and to which I have caused the Seal of the Town of Berthoud to be affixed and have made this proclamation public.

  
William Karspeck, Mayor

