

## State of North Carolina ROY COOPER GOVERNOR

## MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

2022

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

## A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina has a genuine interest in promoting and encouraging not just the physical health but the mental health of all its residents; and

WHEREAS, as of 2019 in the United States, suicide was the second leading cause of death for African Americans ages 15-24; and

WHEREAS, the death rate from suicide for African American men nationwide was four times greater than for African American women, in 2018; and

WHEREAS, less than 10% of African Americans have received mental health services and only 6.5% of African Americans have received prescription medication for mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, Hispanics were 50% less likely to have received mental health treatment as compared to non-Hispanic whites; and

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic has both exacerbated and highlighted the need for mental health care, particularly in minority communities;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim July, 2022, as "**MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this first day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-two and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.