



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed nationally since 1949 to raise awareness of mental health conditions and the importance of mental health as an essential part of overall health; and
- Whereas:** one in five adults experiences a mental health issue in any given year, and one in 17 adults lives with chronic mental illness such as major depression, bipolar disorder or schizophrenia; and
- Whereas:** long delays - sometimes decades - often occur between the onset of symptoms and when individuals receive mental health care, making early identification and treatment critical in the successful management of mental health conditions; and
- Whereas:** mental health challenges do not discriminate - they impact individuals across all ages, races, ethnicities, gender identities, socioeconomic backgrounds and abilities. Promoting mental health equity means ensuring that support and resources are accessible to all members of our community; and
- Whereas:** through public education, further awareness and reduction of stigma associated with mental illness, the lives of individuals and families impacted by mental health conditions can be greatly improved; and
- Whereas:** there is a significant disparity between different racial and ethnic groups in their access to linguistically and culturally appropriate mental health services, indicating a need for more services to address this inequitable access.
- Whereas:** local service providers in Bellevue respond to the needs of people with mental health conditions through a broad spectrum of care.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **May 2025**, as:

Mental Health Awareness Month

in Bellevue and encourage all members of the community, along with businesses, schools and community organizations, to increase awareness and understanding of mental illness, support mental health care, eliminate stigmas and recognize the need for appropriate and accessible services for all.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor
City of Bellevue