

Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, substance use and mental health problems affect all communities nationwide; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 188,000 people in Alabama have alcohol abuse disorders, while 170,000 Alabamians suffer from mental illness; and

WHEREAS, despite declines in Alabama's opioid prescribing rate, Alabama still ranks #1 in the country with 97.5 prescriptions per 100 persons; and

WHEREAS, all Alabamians experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives, and should feel comfortable in seeking help and support to manage these times; and

WHEREAS, the focus of National Prevention Week is to prevent substance use and promote mental health; and

WHEREAS, National Prevention Week's theme, "Inspiring Action. Changing Lives," reminds that simple, daily acts of prevention, like helping a friend make positive choices or supporting a family member in need, can lead to healthier lives for each of us today, and stronger, happier communities, tomorrow; and

WHEREAS, the Alabama Department of Mental Health calls upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Alabama to commit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health. It is important to inform citizens of the steps they can take to protect their mental health and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 10-16, 2020, as

National Prevention Week

in the state of Alabama.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 30th day of April 2020.

Kay Ivey, Governor