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Subject: Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Rally
Location: North Steps, Statehouse
When: 5/4/2016 11:00:00 AM - 11:10:00 AM

APPROVED BY: NH on 4/4

EVENT: Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Rally

DATE: Wednesday, May 4, 2016

TIME: 11:00-11:10 AM

LOCATION: North Steps, Statehouse

LOCATION SET-UP: There will be a podium with a PA system and two large speakers.

SCHEDULING CONTACT:

Jenah Cason
Youth MOVE SC Director
Federation of Families of SC
(803) 772-5210
Jenah.Cason@fedfamsc.org

PRIMARY STAFF: Ashton Lee

ADVANCE STAFF: Brian Symmes

PURPOSE: Gov. Haley will attend the Children's Mental Health Awareness Week Rally on the North steps of the Statehouse to reach her proclamation declaring May 1-7, 2016 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

PRESS: Yes.

PUBLIC: Yes.

INVITED BY:

Jenah Cason, MSW
Youth MOVE SC Director
Federation of Families of SC
803.772.5210
Jenah.Cason@fedfamsc.org

INTRODUCED BY:

Jenah Cason
Youth MOVE SC Director
Federation of Families of SC

LENGTH OF SPEAKING: 5 minutes (reading the 2016 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week

proclamation)

SPEAKING ORDER/LINE-BY-LINE:

11:00 am Welcome, Jenah Cason, Federation of Families of SC

11:03 am Governor Nikki Haley, Presents SC Proclamation of Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, 2016 Comments

11:08 am Governor Haley Departs

11:08 am Senator Michael L. Fair

11:13 am Senator C. Bradley Hutto

11:18 am Introduction of Joint Council Leadership

Bob Toomey, Director, DAODAS—Represented by 2016 Chair, Joint Council for Children and Adolescents

Christian Soura, Director, SC DHHS—Represented by Dr. Pete Liggett, Deputy Director of Long Term Care and Behavioral Health Services

John H. Magill, Director, SC DMH

Sylvia Murray, Director, SC DJJ—Represented by Elizabeth Hill, General Counsel

Trina Cornelison, Director, Office of the Governor, Continuum of Care

Dr. Beverly A. H. Buscemi, Director, SC DDSN

11:22 am Trina Cornelison, Director, Office of the Governor, Continuum of Care

11:27 am John H. Magill, Director, SC DMH

11:37 am Dr. Pete Liggett, Deputy Director of Long Term Care and Behavioral Health Services

11:42 am Sylvia Jones, Parent Story

11:47 am Sonny Cheeks, Youth Story

11:52 am Close, Jenah Cason

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS:

Introductory Remarks:

- This week of awareness is so important to our country and to South Carolina because 1 in 5 children in the United States suffer from some kind of mental illness.
- As parents, and as citizens, our top priority should always be to take care of our young ones and make sure they have a good quality of life, and that's why we are here today – to make sure we are doing everything we can to take care of the children affected by a mental illness.
- But we should all be encouraged. Treatment works. Recovery is possible.
- That's why what we are doing today is so important. We are here to make sure these children and their families know that there is nothing wrong with them and that they can find the help they need to live normal, productive lives.
- Director Magill and the Department of Mental Health have done such a fantastic job at working on this issue, and because of that South Carolina is a national leader in the availability of school-based mental health services.
- Through the Department of Mental Health's School-Based Mental Health Services Program we now have School Based therapists in over 500 (over 40%) of all Public Schools in South Carolina. A number of school districts and individual schools also employ mental health therapists stationed in their schools.
- These services are non-stigmatizing and easily accessible to children and their families. Mental health services are provided with parental consent, under DMH confidentiality guidelines by mental health professionals, at the school, as requested, and often with no appointment necessary.
- We will continue to lead the fight in this effort.
- I want to thank each and every person here for their support of this wonderful cause and we ask that you continue to raise awareness, educate, and lend a helping hand to the people around you who may not know all of the ways they can find help for their loved ones.

Remarks:

- This week of awareness is so important to our country and to South Carolina because 1 in 5 children in the United States suffer from some kind of mental illness.
- As parents, and as citizens, our top priority should always be to take care of our young ones and make sure they have a good quality of life, and that's why we are here today – to make sure we are doing everything we can to take care of the children affected by a mental illness.
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- I want to thank each and every person here for their support of this wonderful cause and we ask that you continue to raise awareness, educate, and lend a helping hand to the people around you who may not know all of the ways they can find help for their loved ones.

PROCLAMATION WORDING:

WHEREAS, ENSURING THE MENTAL HEALTH OF OUR CHILDREN IS ESSENTIAL TO THEIR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AN ESTIMATED 1 IN 5 CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 9 AND 17 SUFFER FROM IDENTIFIABLE MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, OR BEHAVIORAL PROBLEMS THAT REQUIRE TREATMENT; AND

WHEREAS, THE PARTICIPATION OF FAMILY MEMBERS IN THE ASSESSMENT AND TREATMENT OF CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS WITH MENTAL HEALTH DISORDERS IS INTEGRAL TO POSITIVE CLINICAL OUTCOMES; AND

WHEREAS, LEARNING TO RECOGNIZE THE EARLY WARNING SIGNS OF MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND WHERE TO OBTAIN NECESSARY ASSISTANCE AND TREATMENT GIVES CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS BETTER OPPORTUNITIES TO LEAD FULL AND PRODUCTIVE LIVES.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NIKKI R. HALEY, GOVERNOR OF THE GREAT STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM MAY 1 - 7, 2016, AS

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

THROUGHOUT THE STATE AND ENCOURAGE ALL SOUTH CAROLINIANS TO WORK TOGETHER TO RAISE AWARENESS OF THE MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS OF THE CHILDREN OF THE PALMETTO STATE.