

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, one in five individuals are living with a mental health condition in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Vermont, like the rest of the nation, is addressing mental illness and substance use challenges by combining effective promotion, prevention, treatment and recovery support, focusing on strengths and promoting resilience; and

WHEREAS, the health, well-being and quality of life of all Vermonters is impacted by these chronic, yet treatable, health conditions, and virtually all Vermonters know someone in their network of family or friends who is affected; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's mental health organizations continue to educate the public and lawmakers about the effects of mental illness and substance use, and the value of treatment and long-term recovery; building capacity for trauma-informed care and best practice intervention and supports for people living with developmental disabilities; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's Mental Health Advocacy Day is designed to remind all Vermonters that mental health and substance use conditions can respond to proper and timely intervention, treatment, and recovery support services, including the support from peers who have had successful recovery experiences, and that people living with developmental and intellectual disabilities are equal members and willing contributors to our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip B. Scott, Governor, hereby proclaim January 29, 2020 as

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY DAY

in Vermont.

Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 29th day of January, A.D. 2020.



Philip B. Scott
Governor

Brittney L. Wilson
Brittney L. Wilson
Secretary of Civil and Military Affairs