

**STATE OF ARKANSAS**  
**EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT**

**PROCLAMATION**

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Addressing the complex mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future of Arkansas; and

WHEREAS: The need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services and resources for children, youth, and families places upon our communities a critical responsibility; and

WHEREAS: It is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward our children's mental health and well-being; and

WHEREAS: Arkansas, through its unique approach to serving children and adolescents, is committed to effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth, and families in our communities; and

WHEREAS: Increased public awareness of mental-health issues may lead to earlier recognition and treatment of possible mental-health problems in youth, helping to reduce health-care and correctional costs, increase productivity, and improve the ability of children and adolescents to learn and contribute to healthier families and communities; and

WHEREAS: It is important for businesses, schools, government agencies, health-care providers, organizations, and citizens to promote mental wellness and support identification of mental-health conditions, as well as prevention efforts;

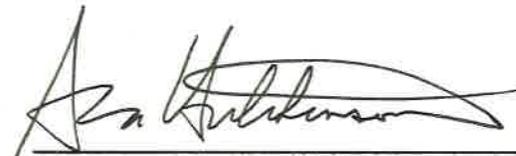
NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim May 5, 2016, as

**CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS DAY**

across the State, and I encourage all individuals, agencies and organizations to unite on that day to observe the needs of all children and youth with mental health needs and resolve to seek solutions and resources to care for those needs.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, in the year of our Lord 2016.



  
Asa Hutchinson, Governor

  
Mark Martin, Secretary Of State