

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Boise County
STATE OF IDAHO
PROCLAMATION
Mental Health Awareness Month – May 2026

WHEREAS, behavioral health is essential to every Idahoan's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, mental illness is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder, with impacts ranging from no impairment to mild, moderate, and even severe impairment; and

WHEREAS, one-fifth (20%, or 59.3 million) of all Americans live with a mental illness every day, and nearly all Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives, and should feel comfortable and confident seeking help and support to manage and recover from these conditions; and

WHEREAS, a severe mental illness (SMI) affects about 6% of US. adults (15. 4 million) and is defined as a mental, behavioral, or emotional disorder resulting in serious functional impairment, which substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities and may lead to a disability; and

WHEREAS, prevention of behavioral health and substance use disorders works, treatment is effective, and people can recover from their illnesses to live full and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, engaging in prevention, early identification, and early intervention may reduce the burden of mental illness and other chronic conditions on Idahoans; and

WHEREAS, "access to treatment providers" and "stable housing" were listed as the greatest gaps and needs in all seven Idaho Behavioral Health regions in the 2025 Idaho State Behavioral Health Planning Council Governor's Report; and

WHEREAS, jails and prisons have often become the default places of custodial care for even nonviolent people with serious mental illnesses; and the Idaho Department of Correction and its partners assessed 5,546 adults for substance use disorder in 2025; and

WHEREAS, Idaho's 12 youth assessment centers (one in every judicial district) served 2,286 youth with behavioral health factors in 2025; and

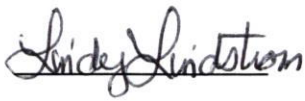
WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization, and citizen has a responsibility to promote mental health and well-being for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT we, the Boise County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as

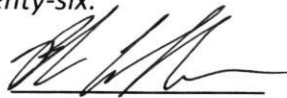
Mental Health Awareness Month

And call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, and schools in Boise County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health, the steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this sixth day of May, two thousand and twenty-six.



COMMISSIONER



COMMISSIONER

AVE via Zoom
Clay S. Tucker

COMMISSIONER, *Chairman*