A PROCLAMATION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA DESIGNATING MAY 2019 AS "MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS AND TRAUMA INFORMED CARE MONTH" IN THE VILLAGE OF WELLINGTON

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and everyone experiences times of stress and struggles in their lives; and

WHEREAS, one in four adults and one in five youth ages 13-18 experience serious mental illness; and 60 percent of adults and 50 percent of youth do not receive the treatment necessary for their mental health needs due to limited or no knowledge of the need, barriers to care, or fear and shame; and

WHEREAS, research recognizes that adverse childhood experiences (ACEs), which include, but are not limited to, physical, emotional and sexual abuse, physical and emotional neglect, household dysfunction, untreated mental illness, or incarceration of a household member, domestic violence, and separation or divorce involving household members, are traumatic experiences that can have a profound effect on a child's developing brain and body, and can result in poor physical and mental health during childhood and adulthood; and

WHEREAS, community understanding and available supports and services can greatly impact a person's ability to handle their stress and struggles and move forward; and promoting mental health and wellness leads to higher overall productivity, better educational outcomes, lower crime rates, stronger economies, lower health care costs, improved family life, improved quality of life and increased lifespan; and studies show that the effects of ACEs are felt by people regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, faith-based organization, non-profit agency and citizen shares accountability for the community's mental health needs and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and support prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Wellington recognizes the impact of awareness and education, access to services and acceptance of the importance of mental health and well-being to a person's overall success and supports the implementation of trauma informed approaches throughout the systems of care.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Village Council of Wellington, Florida does hereby designate May 2019, as **"Mental Health Awareness and Trauma Informed Care Month"** in the Village of Wellington.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Wellington, Florida to be affixed this 23th day of April, 2019.

| ATTEST: | WELLINGTON, FLORIDA |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ву: | Ви: |
| Chevelle D. Nubin, Village Clerk | Anne Gerwig, Mayor |