## Hunt County, Texas Proclamation for Mental Illness Awareness Month

Whereas, mental health is part of overall health; and,

Whereas, one in five adults experiences a mental health problem in any given year; and,

Whereas, approximately one-half of chronic mental illness begins by the age of 14 and three-quarters by age 24; and,

Whereas, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 2nd leading cause among young adults, and 90% of people who die by suicide had shown symptoms of a mental health condition, according to interviews with family, friends and medical professionals; and,

Whereas, long delays—sometimes decades—often occur between the time symptoms first appear and when individuals get help; and,

Whereas, early identification and treatment can make a difference in successful management of mental illness and recovery; and,

Whereas, it is important to maintain mental health and learn the symptoms of mental illness in order to get help when it is needed; and,

Whereas, every citizen and community can make a difference in helping end the silence and stigma that for too long has surrounded mental illness and discouraged people from getting help; and,

Whereas, public education and civic activities can encourage mental health and help improve the lives of individuals and families affected by mental illness.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that May 2022, be declared Mental Illness Awareness Month in Hunt County, Texas, to shine a light on mental illness and fight stigma, provide support, educate the public and advocate for equal care.

County Judge, Bobby W. Stovall

In official witness whereof this 17th day of May, 2022

Attested by:

Commissioner Mark Hutchins

Commissioner Phillip Martin

County Clerk Becky Landrum

Complisioner Randy Strait

Commissioner Steven Harrison