

# PROCLAMATION



**WHEREAS**, mental health is essential to the overall well-being of individuals, families, and communities, affecting how people think, feel, and act; and,

**WHEREAS**, mental health challenges impact people of all ages, backgrounds, and walks of life, and stigma and misunderstanding often prevent individuals from seeking the help they need; and,

**WHEREAS**, youth mental health is a growing concern across the nation, with nearly 40 percent of high school students reporting persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, one in five seriously considering suicide, and many experiencing ongoing emotional distress; and,

**WHEREAS**, promoting mental health awareness helps foster a community of compassion, support, and understanding, where individuals feel safe to seek help and share their experiences; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lee's Summit is committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of its residents through partnerships with local organizations, accessible resources, and community initiatives; and,

**WHEREAS**, Mental Health Awareness Month provides an opportunity to educate the public, reduce stigma, and encourage individuals to prioritize their mental health and support others in doing the same.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, J. Beto Lopez, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2026 as

## *MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH*

and encourage all residents to take steps to care for their mental health, support those who may be struggling, and work together to build a healthier, more resilient community.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri, this 5th day of May 2026.

---

**MAYOR J. BETO LOPEZ**