## WOODBURY COUNTY PROCLAMATION

10C 5/15/18

## May is National Mental Health Month

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall physical health and emotional well-being and

WHEREAS, there is a need to recognize that mental illness affects the lives of many of our citizens and residents of all ages and sectors; and

WHEREAS, mental illness will strike one of four adults; and about two in ten children live with a serious mental or emotional disorder regardless of race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

WHEREAS, people who have mental illnesses can recover and lead full productive lives and with the help of Siouxland Mental Health Center, designated as the community mental health center in Woodbury County; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of adults and one half of children with diagnosable mental health disorders are not receiving the help they need; and

WHEREAS, stigma continues to be the single most significant barrier to people getting the help they need; and

WHEREAS, mental health awareness helps individuals avoid the significant consequences of untreated anxiety, depression and stress; and

WHEREAS, the cost of untreated and mistreated mental illnesses and addictive disorders to American businesses, governments and families continues to grow; and

WHEREAS, disparities in mental health can be reduced by improving community outreach and engagement which ensure competent care for diverse communities; and

WHEREAS, positive mental health fosters self-esteem, and promotes personal happiness and effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, good mental health helps prevent community violence, abuse and family instability; and;

WHEREAS, the Woodbury County Supervisors observes Mental Health month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Rocky De Witt, as Chairperson of the Woodbury County Supervisors, of the County of Woodbury, Iowa, on behalf of the entire County and staff, do hereby proclaim, May of 2018 as NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH MONTH. I also urge all citizens of Woodbury County, Iowa to become involved to increase awareness and understanding of mental health, and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people who have mental illnesses

Date: May 15, 2018

Keith Radig

Woodbury County Supervisor