



STATE OF MISSOURI
Coordinating Board for Early Childhood

205 JEFFERSON STREET, PO BOX 88
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65103

Resolution Endorsing
May 6-12, 2012 as Mental Health Awareness Week
and
May 9, 2012
as
Children's Mental Health Awareness Day

WHEREAS addressing the mental health needs of children, youth, and families today is fundamental to the future wellness and prosperity of all Missouri citizens;

WHEREAS the need for comprehensive, coordinated mental health services for children, youth, and families places upon our community a critical responsibility;

WHEREAS it is appropriate that a day should be set apart each year for the direction of our thoughts toward our children's mental health and well-being;

WHEREAS the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood through its multi-faceted approach to supporting children and adolescents, is effectively caring for the mental health needs of children, youth, and families in our state; and

WHEREAS the emotional health of children is an important reflection of their capacity for success in school and in life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the Missouri Coordinating Board for Early Childhood (CBEC) endorses Children's Mental Health Week May 6 through May 12, 2012 and Children's Mental Health Awareness Day May 9, 2012.
2. Mental disorders affect about one in five American children, yet only about a fifth of these children actually receive the mental health services they need. Children and youth with mental health challenges and their families deserve access to services and supports that are family driven, youth guided and culturally appropriate. Fortunately, positive outcomes for children with mental health needs can be achieved access to appropriate services. We hope the citizens in Missouri will join us in sharing the message that mental health is a vital aspect of a child's overall health and well-being.
3. Furthermore, we urge our citizens and all organizations interested in the well-being of children and families to participate in exercises aimed at increasing public awareness and education to expand the understanding of children's mental health needs.