

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-124

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3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

4

5 DATE April 15, 2024 COMMITTEE Human Services

6

7 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in**
8 **Summit County and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this**
9 **acknowledgement, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

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11 WHEREAS, Mental Health Awareness Month, observed since 1949, has served as a
12 vehicle for increasing awareness, education, and advocacy around the mental health of residents
13 by providing a time to learn about and discuss mental health; and

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15 WHEREAS, according to the National Survey on Drug Use and Mental Health conducted
16 by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (“SAMHSA”), 23.1% of
17 adults in the United States experienced a mental health condition such as anxiety or depression in
18 2022;

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20 WHEREAS, according to the National Health Interview Survey by the National Center for
21 Health Statistics, 21.2% of adolescents 12-17 reported symptoms of anxiety and 17.4% reported
22 symptoms of depression in 2022, with a dramatic increase in these figures among girls and
23 LGBTQ+ teens; and

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25 WHEREAS, roughly 49,000 people die by suicide in the United States every year, with
26 suicide rates highest among men and Native Americans; and

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28 WHEREAS, raising awareness about mental illness, treatment, and mental health services
29 is crucial to the health and welling being of adults and adolescents in Summit County; and

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31 WHEREAS, the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (“ADM”) Board
32 service our community by funding, supporting, and assisting organizations that support the mental
33 health and wellbeing of residents; and

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35 WHEREAS, the ADM Board offers a 24/7 crisis hotline at 330-434-9144 in addition to the
36 new, national Suicide & Crisis Lifeline available to all residents by dialing 9-8-8; and

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38 WHEREAS, in 2023 the Executive’s Department of Human Resources hosted a Mental
39 Health First Aid (“MHFA”) training with instructors from Love Akron and Red Oak Behavioral
40 Health for dozens of county employees, and continues to lead by example by investing in support
41 for the mental health of employees and residents; and

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43 WHEREAS, residents are encouraged to uplift loved ones and neighbors facing challenges
44 to their mental health and help reduce and eliminate the stigma surrounding mental illness; and

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46 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,
47 that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit that May 2024 be declared
48 Mental Health Awareness Month in Summit County and encouraging the residents and employees
49 of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement;

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4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
5 of Ohio, that:

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7 SECTION 1

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9 The month of May 2024 is hereby declared Mental Health Awareness Month in Summit
10 County and encouraging the residents and employees of Summit County to join in this
11 acknowledgement.

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13 SECTION 2

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15 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
16 welfare of the residents and employees of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of
17 immediately declaring May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Summit County to
18 encourage prompt and widespread dialogue about mental health during the month of May.

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20 SECTION 3

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22 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight (8) members, it shall take
23 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise it shall take effect
24 and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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26 SECTION 4

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28 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
29 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
30 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were
31 in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22
32 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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35 INTRODUCED April 15, 2024

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38 ADOPTED April 29, 2024

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DocuSigned by:
Monique Willis
CLERK OF COUNCIL
5560BEF400F3451...

DocuSigned by:
Rita J. Darrow
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
132AA5B69D28443...

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45 APPROVED April 29, 2024

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DocuSigned by:
Jane Shapiro
EXECUTIVE
CB33E40D287473...

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, DeVitis,
Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, McKenney, Rodgers,
Schmidt, Walters, Wiedie Higham, Wilhite

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52 ENACTED EFFECTIVE April 30, 2024