

In the Name and by the Authority of  
**THE STATE OF  
OHIO**



**WHEREAS**, anyone can experience the challenges of mental illness, regardless of background; and

**WHEREAS**, disadvantages in health and health care are intertwined with social and economic conditions, as well as race, ethnicity, age, and geography; and

**WHEREAS**, the repercussions of the drug epidemic and mental illness have touched the lives of all Ohioans, regardless of race, ethnicity, or socio-economic background, and every community in our state has been affected; and

**WHEREAS**, my first act as Governor was to create the RecoveryOhio initiative to ensure that the state addresses gaps in care and treatment for those with mental illness and substance use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, the Minority Health Working Group of RecoveryOhio is developing solutions to ensure that our state has the tools needed to provide culturally appropriate services to meet the needs of all Ohioans struggling with mental health and substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, to address the immediate threats posed by COVID-19 to Ohio's minority communities, the Governor's Office formed the Minority Health Strike Force, which is not only providing recommendations on pandemic-related concerns but also long-standing health disparities; and

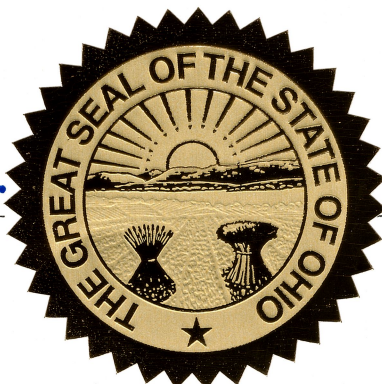
**WHEREAS**, an improved understanding of multicultural counseling and minority mental health will be beneficial to all.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize July as

## MINORITY MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of July 2020.

Mike DeWine  
Governor



Jon Husted  
Lieutenant Governor