

## PROCLAMATION

**A PROCLAMATION** by the Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, declaring May, 2001 as Mental Health month in the City of Bainbridge Island.

**WHEREAS**, the United States Surgeon General states that mental health is fundamental to health and indispensable to personal well-being, family and interpersonal relationships, and contributes to community and society; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Surgeon General confirms that mental illness affects one in five Americans every year, regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, religion or economic status; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States Surgeon General has found that a range of treatments exists for most mental disorders and the efficacy of mental health treatments are well documented; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bainbridge Island has made a commitment to community-based systems of mental health care for all residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the guiding principles of community mental health care have always been comprehensiveness, cost-efficiency, effective management, high-quality, consumer-responsive services, and these principles are now being adopted by private and public healthcare payors; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Mental Health Association, the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare and their national partners observe Mental Health Month every May to raise awareness and understanding of mental health and illness; now, therefore

I, Dwight Sutton, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, do hereby proclaim May 2001 Mental Health Month on Bainbridge Island. I also call upon all Bainbridge Island citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illness and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

Signed by the Mayor this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2001.

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DWIGHT SUTTON, Mayor