

**TOWNSHIP OF ROCKAWAY
PROCLAMATION**

WHEREAS, the week of April 5-11, 2021, is National Public Health Week, and the theme is "Building Bridges to better Health"; and

WHEREAS, since 1995, public health professionals have honored National Public Health Week by educating the public and policymakers about issues important to improving the public's health; and

WHEREAS, there is a significant difference in health status, such as obesity, poor mental health and drug use, among people living in rural areas compared with people living in urban areas, and this variance increases because rural residents are often more likely to face social determinants that negatively impact health, such as poverty, transportation barriers and lack of economic opportunity; and

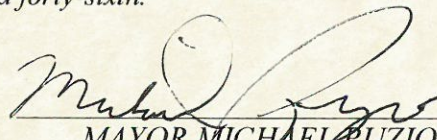
WHEREAS, public health professionals help communities prevent, prepare for, withstand and recover from the impact of a full range of health threats, including disease outbreaks such as the COVID-19 pandemic, measles and natural disasters; and

WHEREAS, public health action, together with scientific and technological advances, has played a major role in reducing and, in some cases, eliminating the spread of infectious disease, and in establishing today's disease surveillance and control systems; and

WHEREAS, six in 10 U.S adults have a chronic disease and four in 10 have two or more; and health risks such as obesity, tobacco use and alcoholism are the primary reason for seven of every 10 deaths annually in the United States; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael Puzio, Mayor of Rockaway Township, do hereby proclaim the week of April 5-11, 2021, as NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK in the Township of Rockaway, and call upon all residents to observe this week by helping our families, friends, neighbors, co-workers and leaders to better understand the value of public health and by supporting opportunities to adopt preventive lifestyle habits in light of this year's theme, "Building Bridges to Better Health."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 23rd day of March, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-one, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-sixth.


MAYOR MICHAEL PUZIO
March 23, 2021

