

*A resolution supporting the Mental Health First Aid Initiative.*

Presented on the 1st of April 2021

Sponsors: Riya Chhabra, Rajan Varmon, Obioma Opara

Co-sponsors: Amina Khalique, Basel Berry, Danishi Bedi, Mannat Bedi, Jasmine Coles, Marcella Eid, Nasrin Nesha, Prarthana Loka, Sravani Bondada

**WHEREAS**, Student mental health is a priority and necessary for successful learning and student engagement on campus; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, Students may lack access to mental health services outside of the campus community and it is important to destigmatize both the topic of mental health and the resources aimed to treat mental health complications; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, It is important for students to learn self-care routines, effective coping skills, and resilience strategies aimed for student success; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, Advocating for student mental health priorities is of the utmost importance to Student Senate; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, In an effort to address this need the Wayne State University Student Senate has been working with Provost Clabo, Dr. Kuentzel and Stephanie Kastely from Counseling And Psychological Services (CAPS) to create the Mental Health First Aid Initiative (MHFA); **AND**

**WHEREAS**, The Mental Health First Aid Initiative (MHFA) is aimed to help raise awareness about the mental health resources on campus and connect students to the resources that are best for them.

**WHEREAS**, The Mental Health First Aid Initiative (MHFA) has two parts: educate and connect. For the education portion a voluntary online module (30 minutes) about mental health resources and self-care will be available to students at the beginning of the year, a First Year Seminar module that explores these topics more in depth, as well as the option to take the Mental Health Elective Course that is being developed in the College of Education. For the connect portion, two new positions will be added to campus: a healthcare professional in the Campus Health Center to triage student needs and develop an outreach system for initial appointments as well as an additional counselor in CAPS, the Wayne State Student Senate will also work with the One Card Office to add the contact numbers for the mental health resources on campus to the back of one cards; **AND**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wayne State University Student Senate fully supports and endorses this initiative; **AND**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wayne State University Student Senate calls on the University to implement the Mental Health First Aid Initiative across the University; **AND**

**AND FINALLY BE IT ORDERED**, that the Wayne State University Student Senate will circulate this resolution to all relevant outlets, including the University President, the University Provost, the members of the Board of Governors, the President of the Wayne State University Academic Senate, and *The South End* student newspaper.

**X** Riya Chhabra  
*Riya Chhabra*  
President

**X** Marcella Eid  
*Marcella Eid*  
Vice President