



White House Declares Presidential Proclamation for Eating Disorders Awareness Week

(WASHINGTON, DC) February 24, 2023- The Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action (EDC) commemorates the [White House Presidential Proclamation](#) for Eating Disorders Awareness Week. This is the second proclamation from the Biden Administration. The EDC thanks President Biden for continuing to bring attention to this serious health condition and reaffirming that with early access to treatment and support, a full recovery is possible.

This year's theme, *"It's Time for Change,"* is a message that now is the time for more: more equity, inclusion, access, outreach, early intervention, education, representation, and awareness. The community deserves so much more and can achieve more by working together to create said change. President Biden and his administration are committed to helping schools hire more counselors, social workers, and nurses; expanding training for health care professionals; integrating mental health into primary care; strengthening enforcement of mental health parity laws; and addressing the harms of bullying and social media platforms that fuel eating disorders, depression, and self-harm.

Eating Disorders Awareness Week is a time to educate individuals on the serious nature of eating disorders. At least 28.8 million Americans will suffer from an eating disorder in their lifetime. Eating disorders affect people of all ages, genders, races, ethnicities, genders, and socioeconomic groups. Eating disorders have the second highest mortality rate of any mental illness. Sadly, one person dies every 52 minutes as a direct result of an eating disorder. Eating disorders are a bio-psycho-social diseases, which means that genetic, biological, environmental, and social elements all play a role in the development of an eating disorder.

"The Eating Disorders Coalition thanks President Biden and his administration for issuing the White House Proclamation in honor of Eating Disorders Awareness Week," **said Laura Donahue, EDC Board Vice President.** "The EDC is committed to have eating disorders recognized as a public health priority throughout the United States. We are humbled to have eating disorders amplified at the highest office within the federal government."

For more information and resources on eating disorders and treatment please visit:

- National Alliance for Eating Disorders: <http://www.allianceforeatingdisorders.com>.

- National Alliance for Eating Disorders' Treatment Search Tool: <http://findEDhelp.com>.
- National Eating Disorders Association: <http://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org>.

The Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy & Action (EDC) is a Washington, DC-based, federal advocacy organization comprised of advocacy organizations, academics, treatment providers, family/loved ones of children with eating disorders, and people experiencing eating disorders nationwide. The EDC advances the recognition of eating disorders as a public health priority throughout the United States. Additional resources can be found at: <https://eatingdisorderscoalition.org/>.

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