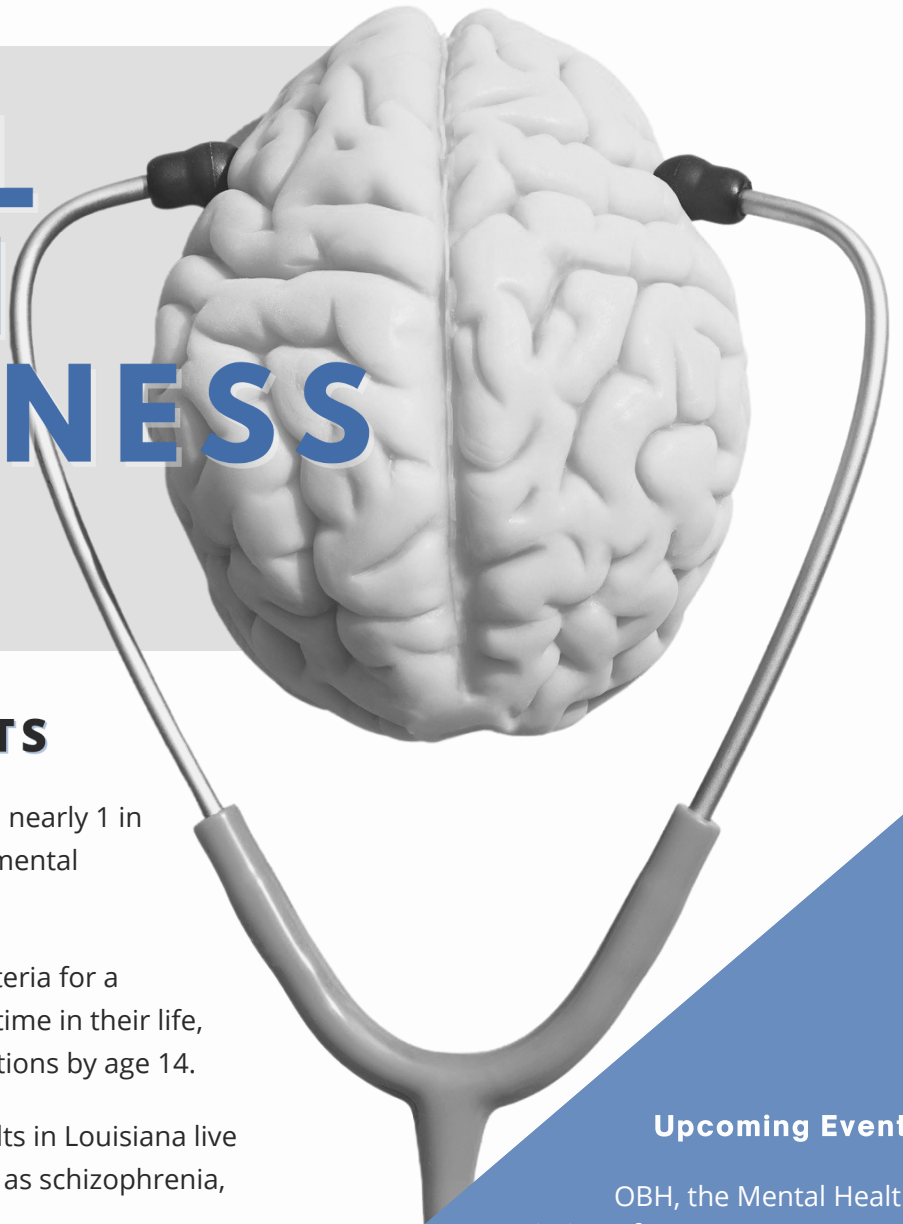


Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. During May, the Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Behavioral Health joins the national movement to raise awareness about mental health.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



MENTAL HEALTH FACTS

- According to Mental Health America (MHA), nearly 1 in 5 American adults will have a diagnosable mental health condition in any given year.
- 46% percent of Americans will meet the criteria for a diagnosable mental health condition sometime in their life, and half of those people will develop conditions by age 14.
- According to SAMHSA, close to 3.6% of adults in Louisiana live with serious mental health conditions such as schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and major depression.
- According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide was the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S. in 2019. That year, there were an estimated 1.38 million suicide attempts. On average, there are 130 suicides per day.

Upcoming Events

OBH, the Mental Health Association of Greater Baton Rouge and the state affiliate of The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention are sponsoring **Talk Saves Lives** in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month in May.

Geared toward the general public, this free, virtual educational event series is meant to bring **awareness about suicide** and **ways to prevent suicide** among individuals, families and communities.

Talk Saves Lives: A Brief Introduction to Suicide Prevention
6 p.m.-7 p.m. May 18 and May 19

To register for these Zoom events:

May 18: <https://tslmay18.attendase.com> | May 19: <https://tslmay19.attendase.com>