

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors Proclamation

HONORING NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH AND OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

WHEREAS, National Recovery Month and Overdose Awareness Day demonstrates to our community a commitment to improving access to treatment programs for mental and/or substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, recovery from mental and substance use disorders, including co-occurring disorders is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness; and

WHEREAS, treatment and recovery services for mental and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders is effective, and people can and do recover in Santa Cruz County and around the nation; and

WHEREAS, addressing and overcoming mental, substance use and co-occurring disorders is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, we must encourage relatives and friends of people with mental and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and encourage those in need of help to seek appropriate treatment and recovery support services; and

WHEREAS, according to the California Department of Public Health, there were 23 opioid related deaths in Santa Cruz County and 2,428 in the State of California in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Santa Cruz County's Syringe Services Program's (SSP) exchange participants have reported 87 overdose reversals using dispensed Narcan thus far this year for the period including January 2020 to the end of July 2020; and

WHEREAS, to help more people with lived experience achieve and sustain recovery, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency invite all county residents to participate in National Recovery Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I John Leopold, Santa Cruz County First District Supervisor, hereby encourage the entire Santa Cruz County community to observe this month as National Recovery Month and to promote the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for mental and substance use disorders, to celebrate people in recovery, to laud the contributions of our community service providers in helping people to actually recover.



John Leopold

Member, Board of Supervisors

September 1, 2020

Date