

Resolution No.:

Adopt a Resolution Proclaiming August 31st as International Overdose Awareness Day

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is recognized globally on August 31st to raise awareness about the risks of overdosing, honor the individuals whose lives have been lost from a substance overdose and acknowledge the grief felt by families, friends, and communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, approximately 108 individuals in Monterey County died from a substance overdose according to the Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative; and

WHEREAS, every person deserves our best efforts to prevent injury and death from a substance overdose, and it is imperative help make sure everyone understands substance overdose is a social issue, which impacts the victim, families, friends, and communities; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day aims to publicly challenge the stigma associated with substance use disorders and overdosing; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the efforts of Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative and its collaborative partners who continuously work to reduce and eliminate overdoses in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, our local Substance Use Disorder Contractors provide Medication Assisted Treatment Services to those in need and Substance Use Prevention services to our youth in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, August 31, 2021 is recognized as a global initiative to provide people with the opportunity to mourn loved ones in public without feeling guilt, to provide information about overdose prevention and drug policy, and provide the opportunity to educate our community about the disease of addiction and how to reach out to those in need of a connection to resources; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT PROCLAIMED, by _____ and all members of the _____ County Board of Supervisors on this _____ Day of August, 2021, that the 31st of August 2021 be declared as International Overdose Awareness Day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that flags be lowered to half-staff at County facilities. Local governments and businesses are encouraged to do the same.