

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Adiel McKnight, Executive Assistant

DATE: August 28, 2023

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION re: Proclaiming August 31, 2023 as Overdose Awareness Day

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdoses, remember without stigma those who have died from overdoses, celebrate life, and commit to supporting the safety, health and wellbeing of people who abuse substances. Finally it is also to acknowledge the grief of the families and friends left behind.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Proclamation re: Proclaiming August 31, 2023 as Overdose Awareness Day.

REVIEWED BY:


Mark McCauley, County Administrator

8/24/23
Date

PROCLAMATION

Overdose Awareness Day

WHEREAS, no community in Washington State is immune to accidental or intentional overdose, and drug overdose deaths remain high across the state, impacting urban, suburban, and rural communities, and disproportionately affecting American Indian Alaskan Native communities and marginalized populations; and

WHEREAS, in the last year nearly 3,000 people have died due to overdoses / suspected overdoses across Washington State including 11 reported in March 2023 for the preceding 12-month period in Jefferson County; and

WHEREAS, Washington State Health Care Authority, Department of Health, and University of Washington-Alcohol Drug Abuse Institute, local health jurisdictions, community organizations, syringe-service programs, harm reduction services and pharmacies collectively distributed overdose reversal medication, Naloxone, to tens of thousands of individuals; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County acknowledges that there is a need to treat drug-related harm as a public health issue and invest in evidence-based practices that save lives and build communities; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson County remains committed to raising awareness around drug overdose morbidity and mortality by reducing stigma through countywide initiatives related to education, prevention, treatment, and recovery support for substance use disorder; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for all people in Jefferson County to grieve the loss of those who have died due to overdose, celebrate life, and commit to supporting the safety, health and wellbeing of people who abuse substances;

NOW, THEREFORE the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, hereby proclaim August 31, 2023, as

Overdose Awareness Day

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Commissioners encourage all residents and visitors alike whose life has been impacted by substance use disorder to call the Washington Recovery Helpline at 1-866-789-1511, available 24-hours a day, 7 days a week.

PROCLAIMED this 28th day of August, 2023.

JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

SEAL:

Greg Brotherton, Chair

ATTEST:

Kate Dean, Member

Carolyn Gallaway, CMC Clerk of the Board

Heidi Eisenhour, Member