



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

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Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS  
Acting Chairman

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Acting Executive Director

RESOLUTION

Recognizing August 31, 2018 as  
"International Overdose Awareness Day" in New Jersey

October 17, 2018

**WHEREAS**, addiction is a disease and International Overdose Awareness Day aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of drug-related death; and

**WHEREAS**, International Overdose Awareness Day acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose; and

**WHEREAS**, globally, there is an estimated minimum of 190,900 premature deaths caused by drugs, with the United States leading the world in drug overdose deaths, opioids accounting for the majority of drug-related deaths, and such deaths being avoidable in most cases; and

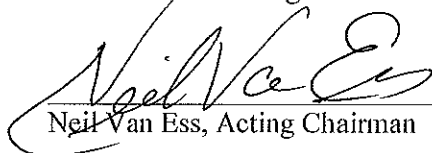
**WHEREAS**, International Overdose Awareness Day 2018 theme is once again "Time To Remember; Time To Act", and to that end this day should stimulate discussion in order to educate communities about overdose prevention, and provide information on the range of support services and resources that exist in our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, this day provides an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones, some for the first time, without feeling guilt or shame and send a strong message to current and former drug users that they are valued; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse remains committed to raising awareness in order to combat the stigma associated with substance use disorders.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes August 31, 2018 as "Overdose Awareness Day" in New Jersey.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Legislature, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services; County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors, and County Alliance Coordinators.

  
Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

10-17-18  
Date