

# 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 and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally; and

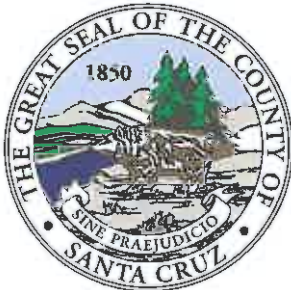
WHEREAS, we must encourage relatives and friends of people with mental and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and encourage those in need of help to seek appropriate treatment and recovery support services; and

WHEREAS, according to the California Department of Public Health, there were 26 opioid related deaths in Santa Cruz County and 5,363 in the State of California in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Santa Cruz County's Syringe Services Program's (SSP) exchange participants have reported 262 overdose reversals using dispensed Narcan thus far this year for the period July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021; 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, Manu Koenig, Santa Cruz County First District Supervisor, and Ryan Coonerty, Santa Cruz County Third District Supervisor, hereby encourage the entire Santa Cruz County community to observe September 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, and to laud the contributions of our community service providers in helping people to recover.



*Manu Koenig*  
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*Manu Koenig*  
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*Member, Board of Supervisors*

September 30, 2021

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*Date*