



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, as many as 22.6 million people aged 12 or older in the United States are currently facing a substance use disorder, according to the latest national figures. This is more than the number of people living with coronary heart disease, cancer, or Alzheimer's disease combined. Four million of those with a substance use disorder have made the courageous choice to seek out the treatment they need and embark on a path of recovery. We need to recognize the achievements of those who seek treatment services, celebrate their successes, and find help for those still in need; and

WHEREAS, treatment and long-term recovery from substance use disorders can offer people a renewed outlook on life. These disorders also take a toll on the families of these individuals, as well as the communities in which they live. It is critical to offer people and their families the treatment and recovery support they need for substance use disorders so they may lead more productive and fulfilling lives, personally and professionally; and

WHEREAS, research shows that substance use disorders are medical conditions that can be effectively treated. Treatment for substance use disorders is just as effective as treatments for other chronic conditions, such as high blood pressure, asthma, and diabetes. By educating our community members that substance use disorders are a treatable, yet serious health care problem, and by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path of recovery. By offering a forum where individuals can share their real stories of long-term recovery, we can inspire others in need to ask for help and improve their own lives, the lives of their families, and the community as a whole; and


WHEREAS, for the above reasons, the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, City of Greenville, and Eastern North Carolina Council on Substance Abuse invite all residents of Greenville to participate in National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2008 as

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

in Greenville and call upon citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies supporting this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Real People, Real Recovery." This year's theme encourages us all to learn how to help those suffering from substance use disorders and their families receive treatment so our community can continue to benefit from their contributions.

This 15th day of August, 2008.


Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor