

PROCLAMATION

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, overdose deaths disproportionately affect American Indian/Alaskan Native communities and marginalized populations; and

WHEREAS, like many states, Washington is fighting concurrent epidemics - while prescription opioids are driving deaths in rural areas of the State, illicit opioid drugs are the primary drivers of deaths in suburban and urban areas; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1,724 Washington residents died from drug overdose deaths in 2020, and increase of 37% over deaths in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Washington State recognizes 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, Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for all Olympians to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are diligently working toward recovery; and

WHEREAS, anyone whose life has been impacted by substance use disorder to call the Washington Recovery Helpline at 1-866-789-1511, which offers anonymous, confidential 24-hour help for Washington State residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim August 31, 2021 as

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Olympia and call upon the community to join in raising awareness of drug overdose morbidity and mortality by reducing stigma through education, prevention, treatment and recovery support for substance use disorder.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 10th DAY OF AUGUST 2021.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

*Cheryl Selby
Mayor*