

**TO THE HONORABLE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF BERRIEN COUNTY:** Your County Personnel and Human Services Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of the following:

**RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS,** annually, Overdose Awareness Day is recognized internationally on Aug. 31 to raise awareness of drug overdose, the stigma associated with overdose deaths and to acknowledge grief experienced by families and friends remembering those lost or injured as a result of drug overdose; and

**WHEREAS,** National Recovery Month, which started in 1989, is recognized throughout the month of September to promote new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, to observe the strength and resilience of the recovery community and to acknowledge the dedication of the providers and communities that support recovery from substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS,** in Michigan there were 31,000 non-fatal emergency department visits due to overdoses and more than 3,000 individuals were lost to overdose in 2022, with 50 lives lost Berrien County; and

**WHEREAS,** substance use disorder and co-occurring substance use disorders and mental health conditions have wide-ranging adverse effects on individuals, families and communities; and

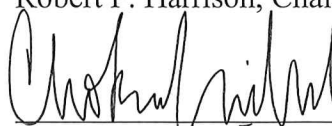
**WHEREAS,** behavioral health is a critical part of overall health and wellness; and

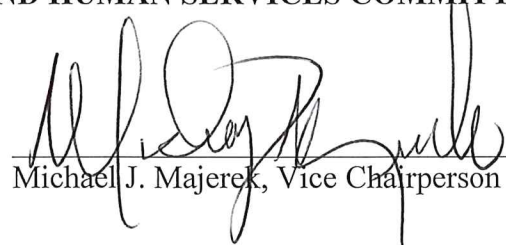
**WHEREAS,** we share the hope that recovery is possible and encourage family and friends of people who use drugs to implement preventative measures, recognize the signs of drug overdose and support accessing support services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** that the Berrien County Board of Commissioners does hereby proclaim Aug. 31, 2023, as **International Overdose Awareness Day** and September 2023 as **National Recovery Month** and call upon our communities to observe these occasions.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
BERRIEN COUNTY PERSONNEL AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

  
Robert P. Harrison, Chairperson

  
Chokwe Pitchford

  
Michael J. Majerek, Vice Chairperson

RESOLUTION APPROVED AS TO FORM	
Administrative 	Date 8-16-23
Comments Attached	
Corporate Counsel TH	Date 8/16/23
Comments Attached	