

Proclamation

The seal of the City of Tampa, Florida, featuring a ship on the water, surrounded by the text "CITY OF TAMPA, FLORIDA" and "ORGANIZED JULY 15, 1887".

Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, behavioral health is an essential part of one's health and overall wellness, and prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover from substance misuse, and recovery is important for an individual's well-being as well as for their families and neighborhoods, and it is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people to live in a community of their choice while striving to reach their full potential and greatly improving their quality of life; and

WHEREAS, substance usage such as cocaine and methamphetamines, and co-occurring disorders have far-reaching, negative effects, and the misuse of one drug often cascades to other forms of abuse including prescription opioids, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that the total economic burden of prescription opioid misuse alone is about \$78.5 billion a year; and

WHEREAS, the impact on our state, including the court system and within Florida communities has been magnified due to COVID-19, resulting in more lives lost and impaired and with their families suffering, and recovery is vital to allow individuals to focus on their abilities to live, work, learn, and fully participate and contribute to our society thereby enriching the culture of our community; and

WHEREAS, with its official color of purple, **National Recovery Month** is observed each September, and it brings awareness to the public that substance use treatment and mental health services can enable those with a mental health and/or substance use disorders to live healthy and rewarding lives, and it celebrates the gains made by those in recovery; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 National Recovery theme is ***Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community***, and it reminds those in recovery and those who support them that no one is alone in the journey; and

WHEREAS, the 13th Judicial Circuit Court in Hillsborough County, Florida is hosting its ***Problem Solving Courts Open House*** on Thursday, September 30, 2021, during National Recovery Month, to bring to the public's attention its commitment to addressing the root causes of justice system involvement and how, through its Problem Solving Courts programs, it positively impacts public safety, reduces recidivism, restores lives, and promotes confidence and access to the justice system.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2021 as

"NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to observe this month with increasing their awareness and understanding of substance use disorders and the programs and activities that encourage recovery, thanking the judicial system and professionals who work to restore lives through recovery, and show support by wearing the color purple.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 1st day of September 2021.





Mayor