

Proclamation Office of the Mayor, City of Mukilteo

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY August 31, 2020

WHEREAS, addiction is a disease and Overdose Awareness Day aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of substance use-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, Mukilteo families have been affected by addiction and overdose, including one life saved in 2019 and two in 2018, by administering the overdose antidote Narcan; and

WHEREAS, 70,000 Americans died from an overdose death in 2017, and over 67,000 in 2018, making it the leading cause of death in the United States in those years; and

WHEREAS, 130 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose; and

WHEREAS, Overdose Awareness Day acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends who have been impacted by this disease, and this day provides an opportunity for people to openly mourn for loved ones without feeling guilt or shame; and

WHEREAS, this day seeks to send a strong message to current and former substance users that they are supported, deserving of dignity and respect, and worthy of recovery;

WHEREAS, the City of Mukilteo remains committed to raising awareness and creating opportunities for dialogue in order to combat stigma and educate our community about addiction and overdose prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jennifer Gregerson, Mayor of the City of Mukilteo, recognize the local impact of addiction and opioid overdose deaths, and proclaim August 31, 2020, as Overdose Awareness Day in Mukilteo. I encourage all residents to help create a culture of compassion, have meaningful conversations to spread awareness and knowledge, and help to eliminate the stigma associated with those who struggle with the disease of addiction.

Signed this 1st day of August, 2020,

Jennifer Gregerson

Mayor