

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY AUGUST 31, 2021

- WHEREAS,** *Addiction is a disease and the stigma associated with addiction must be addressed so that no one feels shame or disgrace over a drug overdose, drug treatment, or recovery; and*
- WHEREAS,** *International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on August 31st each year and aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death. It also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have lost their battle with a substance use disorder; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is important to increase understanding and spread the message about the tragedy of drug overdose death and that drug overdose is preventable; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland joins in support of the international effort to promote awareness and educate the public and policy makers about the need to improve prevention and provide greater access to comprehensive, recovery-oriented treatment.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim AUGUST 31, 2021 as INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 31st day of August
Two Thousand and twenty-one

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. Wolk
Secretary of State