

**RESOLUTION 2020-107**

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF MOUNT ARLINGTON, IN THE COUNTY OF MORRIS, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, IN SUPPORT OF SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 85 DESIGNATING AUGUST 31<sup>ST</sup> OF EACH YEAR AS OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

**WHEREAS**, Drug addiction is a chronic disease, characterized by compulsive or difficult to control drug use despite harmful consequences; and

**WHEREAS**, Drug addiction is seen by both the Centers for Disease Control and the World Health Organization as a fast-growing epidemic that can all too easily lead to overdose and death; and

**WHEREAS**, In 2018, 67,367 individuals died from drug overdoses in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, In New Jersey alone, 2,900 people died from drug overdoses in 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, Furthermore, for every drug overdose that results in death, there are many more nonfatal overdoses, each taking an emotional and economic toll on the individual, their family, and the community at large; and

**WHEREAS**, Drug addiction can fuel feelings of shame, guilt, embarrassment, depression, and hopelessness, causing individuals to resist seeking treatment and support; and

**WHEREAS**, Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on August 31 of each year that aims to raise awareness of drug overdoses, reduce the stigma of a drug-related death, and to acknowledge the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have died or had a permanent injury as a result of a drug overdose; and

**WHEREAS**, To further the goals of Overdose Awareness Day, all flags throughout the State should be flown at half-staff for the day's duration; and

**WHEREAS**, Recognizing Overdose Awareness Day in New Jersey sends a strong message to former or current substance users, namely, that they are valued, and that overdose death is preventable.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY** the Borough of Mount Arlington, County of Morris:

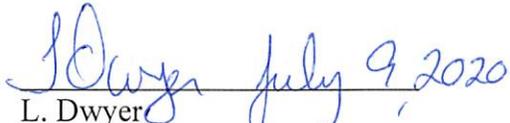
1. August 31 of each year shall be designated as "Overdose Awareness Day" to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death.

2. The Governor is respectfully requested to order flags be flown at half-staff and to issue a proclamation calling upon public officials and the citizens of this State to observe "Overdose Awareness Day" with appropriate activities and programs each year.

3. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution of support be sent to Governor Phil Murphy, Lieutenant Governor Sheila Y. Oliver, Senator Anthony M. Bucco.

**I HEREBY CERTIFY** this to be a true and correct Resolution of the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Mount Arlington, and adopted on July 9, 2020.

  
L. Dwyer  
Acting Borough Clerk