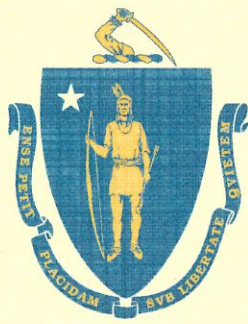


# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Throughout Massachusetts, individuals, families, and communities have been experiencing a public health epidemic related to opioids, alcohol, and other drugs; and

Whereas, It is time to end a drug epidemic taking the lives of at least 5 people every day; and

Whereas, Massachusetts is moving and will move with multiple strategies to address building a continuum of care and policies to address addiction and racial disparities; and

Whereas, We applaud the Massachusetts continuum of care, its treatment providers, front line workers for helping persons with addiction and the surrounding disparities; and

Whereas, It is important to recognize that prescription monitoring is about saving lives, and all healthcare professionals will seize the opportunity to use it for a better tomorrow; and

Whereas, It is, time to recognize the expanding peer recovery support services such as the now 39 peer recovery support centers and the many peer recovery coaches, within a growing network of recovery community organizations; we thank you for spreading the value of recovery every day; and

Whereas, We know addiction is a chronic but treatable disease and recovery is possible with the support of a seamless continuum of care where all can get the right help at the right time; and

Whereas, We seek to continue to build a recovery informed society where recovery becomes a societal "norm" and prevention a societal "given"; and

Whereas, Let's continue to spread the word about the use of Naloxone, a medicine that reverses what could be a fatal opioid overdose, and all harm reduction services preventing death and promoting health; and

Whereas, Let's honor the individuals in recovery, families, and friends, who educate the public about the value of recovery and its multiple pathways; and

Whereas, It is crucial for all Bay State residents to move towards a Commonwealth where addiction is treated as a significant public health issue requiring social justice and recovery be recognized as valuable to all our communities,

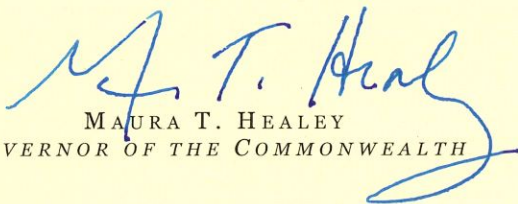
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim September 2023, to be,

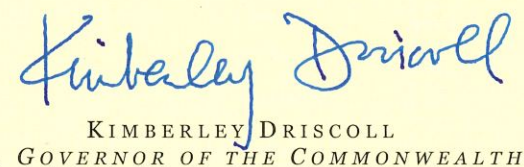
## RECOVERY MONTH

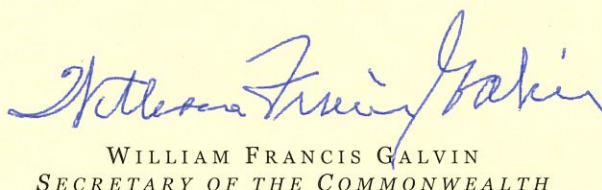
And urge all the residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of September, in the year two thousand and twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-seventh.

BY HER EXCELLENCY

  
MAURA T. HEALEY  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts