

PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2024 AS NATIONAL ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH IN MENDOCINO COUNTY

WHEREAS, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency established Alcohol Awareness Month in 1987 to increase awareness by spreading information locally, statewide, nationwide; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 178,000 people (approximately 120,000 men and 59,000 women) die from alcohol- related causes annually, making excessive drinking the leading preventable cause of death in the United States ([Alcohol-Related Emergencies and Deaths in the United States | National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism \(NIAAA\) \(nih.gov\)](#)); and

WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before 15 are more than 40% more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking after age 18 (Dawson, D.A. et al.; [Age at first drink and the first incidence of adult-onset DSM-IV alcohol use disorders - PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)); and

WHEREAS, 48% of 11th grade students in California between 2015 and 2017 reported having their first drink before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, between 2015 and 2017, 43% of California's 11th grade students reported trying alcohol at least once in their lifetime, while 29% reported having had alcohol within the past 30 days

WHEREAS, the rate of alcohol- related visits to U.S emergency departments increased by nearly 50% between 2006 and 2014, between 2019 and 2020 the deaths involving alcohol rose to a 25.5% increase (<https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohols-effects-health/alcohol-topics/alcohol-facts-and-statistics/alcohol-related-emergencies-and-deaths-united-states>); and

WHEREAS, 4,300 youth under age 21 die annually from alcohol related vehicle crashes ([Under 21 Archives - MADD](#)); and

WHEREAS, 14.8% of Mendocino County adults report binge drinking at least once per year ([Healthy Mendocino::Indicators::Adults who Binge Drink::County : Mendocino](#)); and

WHEREAS, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, provides substance use disorder treatment, raising awareness of statistics, and educating the community about the causes and effects of alcoholism.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April, 2024, as:

“National Alcohol Awareness Month in Mendocino County”

Dated: April 2024

Maureen Mulheren, Chair

