

PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2026 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 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, between 2020 and 2021 the deaths involving alcohol increased 29% (<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, 15.4% 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 misuse treatment, raises awareness of relevant data and trends, and educates the community about the impacts of alcohol misuse.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 2026, as: Alcohol Awareness Month

Sponsored by Supervisor Bernie Norvell

“National Alcohol Awareness Month in Mendocino County”

Dated:

Bernie Norvell, Chair