



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE  
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PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

CELINA LEVY  
*Executive Director*

**RESOLUTION**

**Recognizing the Month of April 2023 as  
“Alcohol Awareness Month” in New Jersey**

**May 16, 2023**

**WHEREAS**, Alcohol Awareness Month is a national public health campaign originally created by the National Council for Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) with the aim of raising awareness for communities and helping them understand the causes and treatment available for alcohol use disorder (AUD), which remains a leading national public health issue; and,

**WHEREAS**, Alcohol Awareness Month also aims to reduce the social stigma associated with alcohol use disorder (AUD) with no shame or blame placed on individuals and families, to educate communities on how the disease can be addressed, offering advice, support, and resources for individuals and families living with AUD; and

**WHEREAS**, research indicates that alcohol use during the teenage years can interfere with normal adolescent brain development and increase the risk of developing alcohol use disorder (AUD); and

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 60 million people ages 12 and older reported binge drinking in the past month, 29.5 million people in the same age group were diagnosed with AUD in the past year, and 10.5% (7.5 million) of U.S. children ages 17 and younger lived with a parent who had alcohol use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, we are experiencing what some are calling a mental health crisis, with rising rates of anxiety and depression across the lifespan, leading to increased use of alcohol, with some individuals engaged in alcohol misuse, and some subsequently developing alcohol use disorder (AUD).

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes the month of April 2023 as “Alcohol Awareness Month” in New Jersey.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Phil Murphy, the New Jersey Legislature, Department of Human Services-Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services, NCAAR, County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors and County Alliance Coordinators.

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

May 16, 2023

Date