



# State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

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*Governor*

TAHESHA L. WAY  
*Lt. Governor*

NEIL VAN ESS  
*Acting Chairman*

CELINA LEVY  
*Executive Director*

## RESOLUTION

### Recognizing the Month of September 2025 as "Recovery Month" in New Jersey

September 16, 2025

**WHEREAS**, National Recovery Month (Recovery Month), which started in 1989, is observed every September to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the nation's strong and proud recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and communities who make recovery possible; and

**WHEREAS**, the theme for National Recovery Month in 2025 is "Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community," emphasizing equity, inclusion, and widespread availability of recovery support services, promoting the idea that recovery is possible for all individuals and families, with the observance aiming to dismantle stigma, expand access to treatment, and foster community support for people in recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, this year's central theme highlights the importance of community involvement, collaboration, and mutual support in the recovery journey, efforts to ensure that recovery becomes a reality for all, not just an aspiration, the encouragement of collective action, sharing resources, promoting education, and advocating for better policies and funding to make recovery accessible to everyone; and

**WHEREAS**, recovery from substance use disorder is a multidimensional, non-linear process of change where an individual improves their health and wellness, lives a self-directed life, and strives to reach their full potential supported by four key dimensions - health, home, purpose, and community, characterized by sustained efforts to live a life free from the negative impacts of substance use, rather than being solely defined by abstinence; and

**WHEREAS**, recovery is not a straight line, destination, or state of being, but is instead an ongoing journey of personal growth with pathways unique to each person, while some may choose abstinence, others may achieve recovery through managing their substance use in a nonproblematic way, reflecting their personal journey and background, focused on improving physical and emotional well-being; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder and its Alliance to Prevent Substance Use Disorder remain committed to supporting recovery in communities across New Jersey and raising awareness about resources such as Reach NJ.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder hereby recognizes the month of September 2025 as "Recovery Month" in New Jersey.

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

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

September 16, 2025

Date