



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Executive Director

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the Month of April 2025 as "Alcohol Awareness Month" in New Jersey

May 20, 2025

WHEREAS, April is Alcohol Awareness Month, an opportunity to update our knowledge about alcohol use disorder (AUD), the adverse impact of alcohol misuse on health and society, and the resources available to address AUD;

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, excessive alcohol use is a leading preventable cause of death, responsible for about 178,000 deaths in the United States each year, shortening the lives of those who die by an average of 24 years; and

WHEREAS, globally, alcohol misuse is a significant public health issue, ranking as the seventh-leading risk factor for premature death and disability, contributing to 2.8 million deaths annually and 5.1% of the global burden of disease; and

WHEREAS, alcohol is the most common drug used by people younger than 21 in the United States, with young people who drink alcohol more likely to develop physical and mental health conditions and have a higher risk of developing an alcohol use disorder later in life; and

WHEREAS, youth are experiencing high levels of anxiety and related mental health issues due to harmful effects of social media and other stressors, making them at significant risk for alcohol misuse and mixing alcohol with drugs, which could increase risk for overdose and suicide; and

WHEREAS, Alcohol Use Disorder is preventable through community supports and prevention efforts, effective treatment, and approaches that include effective policy strategies.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder hereby recognizes the month of April 2025 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 Alcohol and Drug Use Directors and County Alliance Coordinators.

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

May 20, 2025
Date