

TOWN OF BLUFFTON NATIONAL MEDICINE ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION

Whereas, several national substance use prevention observances are held in October, one of which is National Medicine Abuse Awareness, an annual campaign to raise the public's awareness of the dangers of medicine misuse.

Whereas, the misuse and abuse of medicines can be extremely dangerous and can result in death or other serious side effects; and

Whereas, people are dying due to illicitly manufactured drugs mixed with fentanyl, a synthetic opioid, pressed into pills made to like pharmaceutical drugs; and

Whereas, over 80,391 overdose deaths occurred in 2024; and

Whereas, adolescents may obtain drugs through social media, and these drugs are often contaminated with fentanyl; and

Whereas, the disbursement of funds from the Town of Bluffton's allotment of the Opioid Settlement Funds to LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth, was dedicated to social media campaigns targeting youth about the dangers of medicine misuse and the dangers of counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl; and

Whereas, the Town of Bluffton, SC now joins with and supports the efforts of the LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth and Teens for Healthy Youth to raise public awareness of the dangers of medicine misuse and the dangers of counterfeit pills laced with fentanyl.

NOW, THEREFORE I, Mayor Larry Toomer, along with Bluffton Town Council do hereby proclaim the month of October to be **National Medicine Abuse Awareness Month** in the Town of Bluffton and urge all residents to safely dispose of unused or expired medications throughout the year at the Bluffton PD Rx Drop-Off box and at local year-round Rx drop-off sites.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Bluffton to be affixed this proclamation on the 14 day of October 2025.

Larry C. Toomer, Mayor