



International Overdose Awareness Day August 31, 2023

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held annually on the 31st of August to honor loved ones lost to fatal overdose;

WHEREAS, in 2022, 79 people fatally overdosed in Lake County, the highest fatal overdose rate in the state of California;

WHEREAS, all overdose deaths are preventable;

WHEREAS, addiction is a chronic, relapsing, and treatable disease that should not be conflated with moral or personal failure yet continues to be the subject of stigma and marginalization;

WHEREAS, every person should have access to resources that prevent overdose, including naloxone (Narcan), syringe exchange, drug testing, and medication-assisted treatment;

WHEREAS, in Lake County, dedicated prescribers of medication-assisted treatment, harm reduction providers, and substance use recovery programs work tirelessly to provide residents with these resources;

WHEREAS, local communities play a crucial role in reducing stigma, including residents, elected officials, parents, private and public organizations, hospitals, law enforcement, first responders, schools, and colleges;

WHEREAS, SafeRx Lake County, an overdose prevention coalition comprised of local agencies and organizations, will host the third annual commemoration of International Overdose Awareness Day in Austin Park on Saturday, August 19, from 10am until 2pm;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Clearlake City Council joins Lake County Behavioral Health Services, the Lake County Public Health Department, and the agencies and organizations that comprise SafeRx Lake County and does hereby recognize August 31, 2023, as INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY in Clearlake, California.

Dated this 17th day of August, 2023

Russ Perdock, Mayor