

Proclamation

“We Are Hope” Week 2022

WHEREAS, Substance and alcohol abuse negatively affects many areas of the brain, the liver, the heart, and other body parts and can cause adverse behavioral, psychological, and social consequences; and

WHEREAS, there were more than 70,630 drug overdose deaths in the United States in 2019, and the drug overdose death rate has increased by over 250% from 1999 to 2019; and

WHEREAS, substance and alcohol abuse continue to occur among children and youth in North Carolina. In 2019, 35.5% of high school students and 14.4% of middle school students used an electronic vape product; 24.2% of students in high school and 20.4% of students in middle school drank alcohol; 16.6% of high schoolers and 8% of middle schoolers took prescription drugs without a doctor’s prescription; and 22.1% of high schoolers and 10.5% of middle schoolers used marijuana, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s 2019 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance; and

WHEREAS, the Hope Coalition is a grassroots effort initiated by the Henderson County Partnership for Health in 2013 as a community collaborative to educate, evaluate, and implement evidence-based models on substance misuse and underage drinking in Henderson County; and

WHEREAS, student leaders in Henderson County Public Schools’ six high schools and four middle schools have joined with the Hope Coalition and City of Hendersonville Police Department in educating their peers on alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and prescription drug use and abuse; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara Volk, Mayor of the City of Hendersonville do hereby proclaim the week of March 7 through 11, 2022 to be

“We Are Hope” Substance Abuse Awareness Week

in the City of Hendersonville and ask all students in Henderson County Public Schools’ to pledge to be and remain substance-free.

PROCLAIMED this 3rd day of March 2022

Seal

Barbara G. Volk, Mayor
City of Hendersonville

Attest:

Angela L. Reece, City Clerk