

National Recovery Month – September 2023

- WHEREAS,** according to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in 2021, 16.5 percent of Americans (or 46.3 million people) 12 years or older, were classified as having a substance use disorder in the past year, including 29.5 million people who were classified as having an alcohol use disorder and 24 million people who were classified as having a drug use disorder; and
- WHEREAS,** according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) over 105,000 overdose deaths occurred in the United States in 2022, a 2% decrease from 2021; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use recovery is important for individual well-being and vitality, as well as for families, friends, communities, and businesses; and
- WHEREAS,** OCHN continues to educate and raise awareness of the risks and potential harm associated with prescription drug misuse; and
- WHEREAS,** stigma and stereotypes associated with substance use disorders often keep people from seeking treatment that could improve their quality of life; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use disorders occur when the re-current use of alcohol and/or other drugs cause clinically or functionally significant impairment, such as health problems, disability, and failure to meet major responsibilities at work, school, or home; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use disorder recovery is a journey of healing and transformation, enabling people to live in a community of their choice while striving to achieve their full potential; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use disorder recovery, benefits individuals with substance use disorders by focusing on their abilities to live, work, learn, and fully participate and contribute to society and enriches the community culture; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, Oakland Community Health Network hereby recognize September 2023 as National Recovery Month. OCHN calls upon individuals, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, faith-based organizations, and schools to re-commit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of substance use, and the need for appropriate and accessible services to promote recovery.