



City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, Mental health and substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a profound effect on rates of mental health and substance use, with increasing numbers of people experiencing anxiety, depression, and substance use disorders. With commitment and support, those impacted can embark on a journey of improved health and overall wellness.

National Recovery Month is an opportunity to celebrate all people that make the journey of recovery possible and spread the message that prevention works, treatment is effective, and recovery is possible.

Through Recovery Month, we are better able to recognize the signs of mental health and substance use disorders and help people in need of treatment and recovery services understand the benefits of seeking help. Managing the effects of these conditions helps individuals, families, and whole communities thrive.

The Recovery Month observance continues to work to improve the lives of those affected by mental health and substance use disorders by raising awareness and educating communities about effective services that are available, including those at the City's Department of Youth and Family Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2023 as

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

and encourage the citizens of Mercer Island to join me in celebrating this September as National Recovery Month.

APPROVED, this 5th day of September 2023.

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 314

