



City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation*

Mental health and substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide. The COVID-19 pandemic has had, and continues to have, a profound effect on mental health and substance use, with increasing numbers of people experiencing anxiety, depression, and loneliness. The impact of mental health and substance use disorders is apparent in King County with an estimated 575,000 people affected by these conditions. 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 signs of mental health and substance use disorders and people in need of treatment and recovery services learn 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. For these reasons, I am asking the citizens of Mercer Island to join me in celebrating this September as **National Recovery Month**.

I, Mayor Salim Nice, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2022 as

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

and call upon the people of Mercer Island to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies to support the national Recovery Month theme, *"Recovery is for Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community."*

SIGNED this 6th day of September 2022.

Salim Nice, Mayor

Proclamation No. 293

