



# PROCLAMATION

## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

### **Alcohol Awareness Month** **April 2024**

- WHEREAS:** Alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States. More than 200 diseases and injury-related conditions are associated with alcohol misuse. Excessive alcohol use is responsible for more than 178,000 deaths in the United States a year, making alcohol a leading preventable cause of death in our nation. Approximately 4,000 of those deaths being among underage youth; and
- WHEREAS:** Young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21; and
- WHEREAS:** The typical American will see 100,000 beer commercials before they turn 18; and
- WHEREAS:** Kids who drink are more likely to be victims of violent crime, involved in alcohol-related traffic crashes, and have serious school-related problems; and
- WHEREAS:** A supportive family environment is associated with lowered rates of alcohol use in adolescents. Consistent and sustained parental attitudes can influence a child's decision about whether to use alcohol and drugs; and
- WHEREAS:** Kids who have conversations with their parents and learn a lot about the dangers of alcohol and drug use are 50% less likely to use alcohol and drugs than those who don't have such conversations. Now,
- THEREFORE:** I, Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee, join the Middletown Municipal Alliance in proclaiming April 2024 as **Alcohol Awareness Month** in Middletown Township. We call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools, and colleges in Middletown to support efforts that will provide early education about alcohol and substance use or misuse to increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism. Through these efforts, together we can provide hope, help, and healing for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use or misuse.

*Given, under my hand and the Great Seal of the Township of Middletown,  
this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year two thousand twenty-four*

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Mayor Tony Perry