



PROCLAMATION

Office of the Mayor

Substance Use Prevention Month October 2024

WHEREAS: In 2011, the first Presidential proclamation designating October as National Substance Abuse Prevention Month, now referred to as National Substance Use Prevention Month, was issued in honor of those working to prevent substance misuse in our communities and to rededicate ourselves to building a safer, healthier America; and

WHEREAS: Substance misuse touches all aspects of a community and typically begins at an early age. Nine out of ten people who misuse nicotine, alcohol, or other drugs begin using these substances before they are 18 years old; and

WHEREAS: People who start using addictive substances before the age of 15 are nearly seven times likelier to develop a substance use disorder than those who delay first use until they are 21 or older; and

WHEREAS: Through community-based efforts we can strengthen the support systems that deter our nation's young people from drug consumption and improve both academic performance and workforce readiness; and

WHEREAS: In an effort to dispel myths that young people have about underage drinking and drug use, the Middletown Alliance partners with local law enforcement, health providers, businesses, schools, colleges, parents, and youth to educate the community. Now,

THEREFORE: I, Mayor Tony Perry and the Middletown Township Committee, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2024 as **Substance Use Prevention Month** in Middletown and call upon the people of Middletown to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and discussions. We encourage our community to reach out to the Middletown Alliance for the prevention of substance use and connection to resources. Visit www.middletownnj.org/middletownalliance for more information.

*Given, under my hand and the Great Seal of the Township of Middletown,
this seventh day of October in the year two thousand twenty-four*

Mayor Tony Perry