

Proclamation

Whereas, every day, millions of Americans prove that recovery from alcohol and substance use disorders is possible. Substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide, but with commitment and support, people with these disorders can achieve healthy lifestyles and lead rewarding lives in recovery. Recovery Month spreads the message that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people recover; and

Whereas, we celebrate the impactful partnership with Rebel Recovery Florida, which provides essential mobile health and peer recovery support. Their services, including hygiene and personal care supplies, risk reduction information, infectious disease testing, and navigation to care, are instrumental in preventing the spread of infectious diseases; and

Whereas, Rebel Recovery Florida is an accredited Recovery Community Organization that offers low barrier certified peer services with recovery support services, education, and advocacy to people impacted by drug use and those living with or at risk of infectious disease; and

Whereas, we recognize the crucial role of peer support in the recovery journey of individuals affected by substance use or mental health issues. Peer support, through shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment, supports all pathways to recovery and celebrates any positive change; and

Whereas, the shared lived experience of peer support gives hope, and increases motivation and engagement in recovery-based activities by being role models, developing coping skills, facilitating community reintegration, connecting to community-based supports, resources, and treatment services; and

Whereas, Rebel Recovery encourages and supports local individuals with lived experience of substance use and/or mental health disorders to become recovery supports in their communities by providing the education and supervision needed to become certified recovery peer specialists; and

Whereas, Rebel Recovery has made a significant impact, having served 2,679 participants, provided 7,155 hours of community outreach yearly, distributed 32,448 Narcan kits, and reported 2,122 overdose reversals since 2017. Since 2021, they have facilitated the safe disposal of 206,962 used syringes, distributed 190,606 sterile units, and provided mobile syringes and health services to 729 participants; and

Whereas, Rebel Recovery Florida remains a champion for the improved health of people who use drugs, recognition for all people to be treated with dignity, respect, compassion, and the right of equitable access to a person-centered, recovery-oriented system of care, through its robust services, collaborative programs, and our partnership with the City of Pahokee and throughout Palm Beach County; and

Whereas, the City of Pahokee's recognition of Recovery Month is a crucial step in improving the lives of those affected by substance use disorders. By raising awareness of this disease and educating the community about prevention, treatment, and recovery resources that are available, the City of Pahokee is playing a vital role in this important cause, making our community feel valued and integral to the recovery process.

Now, therefore, I, Keith W. Babb, Jr., Mayor of the City of Pahokee, and on behalf of the City Commission, recognize the value Rebel Recovery, Peer Specialists and Recovery Support services bring to our community, and in so doing, hereby proclaim September 2024 as:

"National Recovery Month"

In official recognition whereof, I hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Pahokee to be affixed this 27th day of August 2024.



Keith W. Babb, Jr.

Mayor Keith W. Babb, Jr.

Clara M. Murvin

Vice Mayor Clara M. Murvin

Derrick Boldin

Commissioner Derrick Boldin

Sanquetta Cowan-Williams

Commissioner Sanquetta Cowan-Williams

Everett D. McPherson, Sr.

Commissioner Everett D. McPherson, Sr.