

Proclamation

Declaring May 7-13, 2023 as National Prevention Week in the City of Tualatin

WHEREAS, substance misuse and mental health problems affect all communities nationwide. According to the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 61.2 million Americans ages 12 and older used illicit drugs in the past year. Nearly six million young people (aged 12 to 20) reported drinking alcohol in the past month. Twenty-two percent of Americans (74 million people) aged 12 and older used tobacco products or used an e-cigarette or other vaping device to vape nicotine in the past month. Additionally, in 2021, 8.7 million Americans misused prescription pain relievers.[i]

WHEREAS, with commitment and support, these and other substance use and mental health issues can be prevented. The focus of National Prevention Week is to change the prevention landscape by providing evidence-based and accessible resources to facilitate collective action and story-sharing. By showcasing the work of our partners in prevention, we can confront the societal challenges surrounding substance misuse together while celebrating stories of prevention.

WHEREAS, this is a message we need to spread far and wide. An estimated 29.5 million people ages 12 and older in America were classified as having alcohol misuse disorder in the past year, and about 57.8 million adults had a mental illness. The impact of mental and substance misuse disorders is apparent in our local community: An estimated 5,058 people in Tualatin, Oregon are affected by these conditions. We have the power to change these numbers, and more importantly, change lives.

WHEREAS, through National Prevention Week, people become more aware and able to recognize the signs of mental health and substance use disorders. Equally important, community members from all walks of life learn what they can do to create a healthier tomorrow by helping to prevent these problems. Being a shoulder for someone to lean on, leading someone to get help for a mental health or substance use issue before it worsens, setting an example by staying substance-free, and other actions like this all play a role in keeping the people around us—and ourselves—healthy and safe.

WHERE, we and others across the United States, need to recognize the seriousness of substance use and mental health issues in our communities, the power of prevention, and the tireless efforts of those working to make a difference. The small, daily actions done by individuals, combined with the actions of families, communities, and coalitions, come together to make up the larger, bold movement of prevention.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Tualatin hereby proclaim May 7-13, 2023 to be National Prevention Week and call upon our community to join us this week in celebrating the compelling programs and events that support increasing awareness of, and action around, mental health and/or substance use disorders year-round.

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of May, 2023.

CITY OF TUALATIN, OREGON

BY _____
Mayor

ATTEST:

BY _____
City Recorder