

DURHAM BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Proclamation

RECOVERY MONTH | 2025

- WHEREAS,** National Recovery Month (Recovery Month), which started in 1989, is observed every September to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the nation's strong and proud recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and communities who make recovery possible; and
- WHEREAS,** this year's Recovery Month theme is "Recovery is REAL (Restoring Every Aspect of Life)"; and
- WHEREAS,** it is estimated that 3,025 North Carolinians have died from a suspected overdose in 2024. Durham County seeks to educate the community about substance use disorders, mental health and the availability of services and support; and
- WHEREAS,** we strive to reduce stigma by educating and removing the negative stereotypes associated with the disease of addiction, treatment and programming in hopes that community members recognize that everyone is deserving of help; and
- WHEREAS,** substance use can contribute to illegal activity, the Justice Services Department seeks to invest in recovery programs that address the root causes of the justice involvement by offering programs such as STARR, Jail Mental Health, Cognitive Behavior therapy, Intensive Outpatient treatment and Specialty Courts; and
- WHEREAS,** we strive to reduce the stigma associated with the use of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), by educating the community that MOUD is an evidence-based treatment modality that helps reduce opioid cravings, withdrawal symptoms and the risks of overdose that is used in combination with counseling and/or behavioral interventions; and
- WHEREAS,** we work closely with the City of Durham Community Safety Department and other local, state and federal partners to improve public safety, reduce recidivism and improve the quality of life for justice involved citizens experiencing substance use disorders by offering screenings, assessments, education and group and individual treatment services.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Nida Allam, Chair and on behalf of the Durham Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of September as

"RECOVERY MONTH"

in Durham County and hereby call upon the people of Durham to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies to support this year's recovery theme and our on-going recovery efforts.

This the 8th day of September 2025

Nida Allam, Chair
Durham Board of County Commissioners

