



Office of the Mayor
City of Tukwila, Washington
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, behavioral health is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness; and

WHEREAS, prevention of mental and/or substance use disorders works, treatment is effective, and people recover in our area and around the nation; and

WHEREAS, preventing and overcoming mental and/or substance use disorders is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, we must encourage relatives and friends of people with mental and/or substance use disorders to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate treatment and recovery support services; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, 3.8 million people received specialty treatment for a substance use disorder and more than 31.6 million adults aged 18 or older received services for mental disorders, according to the *2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*. Given the serious nature of this public health problem, we must continue to reach the millions more who need help; and

WHEREAS, on October 1, 2013 as a result of the Affordable Care Act, more than 11 million uninsured individuals with behavioral health needs will become eligible for affordable insurance coverage for their treatment needs, according to the *2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health*. We must ensure that all of these individuals are successfully enrolled into coverage; and

WHEREAS, to help more people achieve and sustain long-term recovery, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), and the City of Tukwila invite all residents to participate in *National Recovery Month*;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jim Haggerton, Mayor of the City of Tukwila, do hereby proclaim the month of September as:

National Recovery Month

in the City of Tukwila and strongly encourage all citizens of Tukwila to join me in this special observance.

Presented at the City Council meeting this 3rd day of September, 2013.



Jim Haggerton, Mayor