

**MEMORANDUM
PLACER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Adult System of Care**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.
Placer County Health Officer and Director of Health & Human Services
Maureen F. Bauman, Director of Adult System of Care

DATE: September 8, 2009

SUBJECT: Resolution Proclaiming September 2009 as Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Placer County

ACTION REQUESTED:

Approve the attached Resolution proclaiming September 2009 as Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month in Placer County.

BACKGROUND:

In Placer County, many people are living productive, satisfying lives as a result of recovery from alcoholism and drug addiction. Placer County residents receive assistance through the many substance abuse treatment resources provided by Placer County directly or referred to community-based treatment through our Health and Human Services Systems of Care. Many Placer County residents have completed substance abuse treatment, been re-connected to their families, and returned to lead healthy and productive lives. Over 600 persons annually complete Placer County substance abuse treatment programs.

Treatment programs are only one path to recovery. Other residents of Placer County have experienced recovery on their own or with the assistance of self help, support from faith-based organizations or medication treatment through their medical providers. There is no one path to recovery. Each person's intervention and treatment is unique to his or her individual needs. All paths to recovery will be celebrated at our 7th annual "*Recovery Happens*" event on September 19th at Recreation Park.

This year the national campaign "Together We Learn, Together We Heal" has a focus on all the recovery resources that exist within our many communities and the expanding services on the internet. The Placer Network of Care is a local starting place to find internet resources at www.placernetworkofcare.org but there are many more resources. Online forums offer a community for people to share their experiences, challenges, and questions about recovery and specialized programs outreach to specifically help young adults. Our federal partner, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), has devoted one of its web casts to accessing prevention, treatment, and recovery online which can be viewed at www.recoverymonth.gov.

Persons in recovery help themselves and the community. Treatment has proven to be cost-effective. Conservative estimates show that for every \$1 invested in treatment for addiction, there is a return of \$7 in reduced drug-related crime, criminal justice costs, and losses from theft. When savings to health care are included, total savings can exceed costs by a ratio of 12 to 1.

We are asking the Board to proclaim September 2009 as "Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month" in Placer County, to demonstrate continued support and commitment to alcohol and drug treatment and recovery, and to support our local "*Recovery Happens*" event on September 19, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of this action.

**Before the Board of Supervisors
County of Placer, State of California**

In the matter of:

Resolution No: _____

**Proclaim September 2009 as Alcohol & Drug Prevention,
Treatment, and Recovery Month in Placer County**

Ord. No.: _____

First Reading: _____

The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held _____, by the following vote on roll call:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Signed and approved by me after its passage.

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: _____
Clerk of said Board

WHEREAS, alcoholism and drug dependency are chronic disorders with genetic, psychosocial, and environmental factors influencing their development and manifestations; and

WHEREAS, prevention efforts can be effective in reducing the psychosocial and environmental factors; and

WHEREAS, alcoholism and drug addiction can and do affect all people and families in our communities; and

WHEREAS, alcohol and drugs are the third leading cause of death in the nation; and

WHEREAS, untreated alcoholism and drug addiction cost the state's workplaces billions of dollars in lost productivity, absenteeism, and accidents every year; and

WHEREAS, untreated addiction contributes to unwanted pregnancy, school dropouts, suicide, crime, juvenile delinquency, dysfunctional families, poverty, joblessness, homelessness, ill health, mental illness, HIV infection, hepatitis, and other deadly infectious diseases; and

WHEREAS, successful treatment and recovery programs have been demonstrated to reduce unnecessary state health care costs, reduce costs of lost productivity and increase state productivity by getting more workers into recovery, reduce the number of people in jail and prisons, reduce street and gang violence, reduce school dropout rates, reduce the cost of crime and the rate of recidivism, reduce the burden on law enforcement officials, reduce the total financial drain on our economy, and improve the quality of life for individuals and for society as a whole; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of individuals are living sober, productive lives and paying taxes in this State and our community as a result of prevention, treatment, or recovery services;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, State of California hereby adopts this resolution and proclaims the month of September 2009 as Alcohol and Drug Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Month, to demonstrate its continued support and commitment to alcohol and drug prevention, treatment and recovery, and encourage individuals and communities throughout the state to participate in its activities.