

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ERIN J. MURPHY, BREADON, COLETTA, DURKAN,
FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD, FLYNN, MEJIA, PEPÉN, SANTANA,
WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING CHILDREN OF ADDICTION WEEK

WHEREAS, The week of February 11th marks the Children of Addiction Week. This campaign, led by The National Association for Children of Addiction (NACoA), is intended to break the silence, and stigma, around children affected by parental addiction; *and*

WHEREAS, One in four children lives in a family impacted by parental addiction, and these children are the most vulnerable population to develop addiction at some point in their lives. Children of substance abusing parents are more than twice as likely to have a drug and alcohol use disorder by young adulthood as compared to their peers; *and*

WHEREAS, There are serious medical concerns related to this. Children exposed to a parent's substance use commonly experience educational delays and inadequate medical and dental care. Almost a quarter of the children do not receive routine child health maintenance services in their first two years of life and are also at greater risk of later mental health and behavioral problems, including SUD; *and*

WHEREAS, We have an obligation and an opportunity to help break multi-generational cycles of substance use by being informed about the effects of parental substance use on children, intervening when necessary, and collaborating with the family, other health care providers, and appropriate government agencies to address the issues involved; *and*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDERED: That the Boston City Council recognizes the week of February 11th, 2024 as Children of Addiction Week in the City of Boston, and work collaboratively to help combat the negative outcomes of these children impacted to help ensure a brighter future for them.

Filed on: February 14, 2024