

Offered by: COUNCILORS JOHN FITZGERALD, ERIN MURPHY, ED FLYNN, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, MEJIA, PEPEN, SANTANA, WEBER, WORRELL AND LOUIJEUNE



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER AS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

- WHEREAS:** Since 1989, September has been recognized as “National Recovery Month” by recovery organizations, in order to celebrate the positive steps made by those in recovery, and spread awareness of evidence based methods of substance abuse prevention and treatments; and
- WHEREAS:** Millions of Americans have transformed their lives through recovery treatment, making it important for us to highlight their strides in order to encourage more individuals to take the steps toward recovery; and
- WHEREAS:** Since 2019, our city has seen a rise in substance abuse mortality rates. Largely spurred by a 32% increase in the rate of deaths from specifically drug abuse from 2019 to 2020; and
- WHEREAS:** The rise in substance abuse mortality has had a disproportionate impact across our city. Boston’s black population has suffered the highest rise in substance abuse mortality rates since 2019. With the neighborhoods of Dorchester, Roxbury and the South End each experience a death rate higher than the rest of the city; and
- WHEREAS:** By recognizing National Recovery Month, the Boston City Council can both celebrate the steps made by those in recovery, and help spread information for policies that reduce the burden for mental health care access; **THEREFORE BE IT**
- ORDERED:** That the Boston City Council recognize the month of September 2024 as “National Recovery Month” and encourage all citizens and institutions across this city to celebrate those making steps towards recovery, and spreading awareness resources available for substance abuse prevention and recovery.

Filed in City Council: August 28, 2024