



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

**RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2023
RECOVERY MONTH IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the Santa Barbara County Behavioral Wellness Department provides, in partnership with community-based organizations, a Continuum of Care which includes the prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery from mental health and substance use challenges promoting the message that behavioral health is essential to overall wellness; and

WHEREAS, Mental health and substance use disorders affect Santa Barbara County, and all communities nationwide; and, with commitment and support, those impacted can embark on a journey of improved physical health, emotional health, and overall wellness; and

WHEREAS, Recovery Month, celebrated every September, promotes and supports new evidence-based treatment, recovery practices, the recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and communities who make recovery possible in all its forms. This year's Recovery Month theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Together We Are Stronger," acknowledges that it takes support from many to face the challenges of recovery. This year's theme focuses on first responders, healthcare workers, community leaders, and advocates helping to support recovery in our community; and

WHEREAS, Recovery Month helps to promote key messages: the recovery journey isn't only for the person with the substance use or mental health issue – it includes everyone who cares about them; when recovery care and support reflect someone's unique cultural values, they are more likely to succeed; wellness in recovery encompasses a person's whole life and not just their substance use or mental illness; and, by sharing their stories and lived experience, peers engage others in recovery with a vital sense of belonging, support, and hope; and

WHEREAS, The County of Santa Barbara Behavioral Wellness Department collaborates with partner agencies and community-based organizations in all areas of the county, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to access services and support to achieve and sustain long-term recovery by improving their health and wellness, living a self-directed life, and striving to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, we encourage continued collaboration and integration of services to ensure success for individuals and groups who are in long term recovery; and

WHEREAS, a Recovery Month Observance will support and highlight work efforts that are essential to improving the lives of those affected by mental health and substance use disorders including raising awareness, educating communities about the effective services that are available, and by celebrating all recovery achievements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED AND RESOLVED that this Board of Supervisors proclaims September 2023 as Recovery Month in Santa Barbara County and encourages all residents to support men, women, youth and their families who are in substance use disorder treatment and mental health recovery programs throughout our community.

Passed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County, this 19th day of September, 2023 by unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST:

Moniqueysato
Clerk of the Board

Das Billings

Supervisor - 1st District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Hartman

Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob Weber

Supervisor - 4th District

[Signature]

Supervisor - 5th District