



THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING AUGUST 31st, 2025 AS

Overdose Awareness Day

WHEREAS, **International Overdose Awareness Day** is observed annually on August 31st to raise awareness of overdose, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and remember those who have died, and acknowledge the grief of families and friends; and the global campaign embraces the theme "One Big Family, Driven by Hope" for 2025; and

WHEREAS, August 31, 2025, presents an opportunity for San Mateo County to join this global effort—reminding us that overdose prevention is not only a matter of public health, but also one of compassion, healing, and community solidarity; and that ending overdose requires reducing stigma, increasing awareness, and expanding supportive resources for prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and recovery; and drawing inspiration from national proclamations calling for collective action, reflection, and steadfast support for those suffering and those in recovery; and

WHEREAS, in response to a steady uptick of drug overdose numbers in San Mateo County, the Board of Supervisors held a study session on the topic of fentanyl and opioid overdose in 2023 that led to the hiring of Dr. Ronni Brown, Senior Community Health planner, to tackle the public health issue of overdoses in the County, and subsequently formed the San Mateo County Overdose Prevention Coalition led by a of diverse steering committee comprised of community members, service providers and individuals with lived experience in order to identify a pathway forward to bring awareness, provide resources and services, and prevent overdoses in San Mateo County; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, a Naloxone dispenser was installed in the lobby of Maguire Correctional Facility in order to provide free resources to anyone who needs it and even those who may not, as data has repeatedly shown the impact of reducing fatal outcomes from overdose if Naloxone is administered expediently; and

WHEREAS, the County’s work is further bolstered by the dedication of nonprofits and community members such as HOPE: Healing, Overdose Prevention and Education, a Pacifica-based organization founded by Rondel and Clarence Davis, that is strengthening that community response through installation of publicly-accessible Naloxone dispenses countywide, creating a network for families experiencing loss due to overdose, and through the upcoming Annual Educational Fair and Memorial Walk taking place in Pacifica on Saturday, August 30th.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, hereby designates August 31st, 2025 as **OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY** in San Mateo County and urges all residents to become familiar with the dangers of improper use of opioids, keep fentanyl test strips and Naloxone on hand to prevent overdose, and work to reduce the stigma of addiction for the health and safety of all residents.

DATED: August 26, 2025

SUPERVISORS:

DAVID J. CANEPA, PRESIDENT

JACKIE SPEIER

NOELIA CORZO

RAY MUELLER

LISA GAUTHIER

ATTEST: _____
DEPUTY CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS