



SAMPLE PROCLAMATIONS FOR NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

Sample Proclamation 1: Traditional Format

WHEREAS, barriers to accessing treatment facilities are a significant problem for people with alcohol or drug use disorders; and

WHEREAS, such barriers include failures to identify affected people and direct them to treatment, inadequate public and private insurance coverage for treatment services, and shrinking state budgets that limit funding for treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, saluting people who are in recovery from alcohol and drug use disorders, as well as those who have helped them obtain treatment, helps to overcome such barriers by educating the community about the benefits of treatment, and affirming the goal that all people with alcohol and drug use disorders should have access to treatment services; and

WHEREAS, to help achieve this goal, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and **[the name of a treatment organization in your community here]** invite all residents of **[your city or state]** to participate in *National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month*;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **[name and title of your elected official here]**, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2004 as

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

in **[name of your city or state here]** and call upon the people of **[name of your city or state]** to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies supporting this year's theme, "*Join the Voices for Recovery... Now!*"

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this **[first/other day of month]** day of September, in the year of our Lord two thousand four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twenty-ninth.

Signature

(more)

Sample Proclamation 2: Contemporary Format

Problems with drugs and alcohol continue to be prevalent in every state in the nation, but there is hope that the tide can turn if more people with alcohol and drug use disorders are given access to treatment. We now know that alcohol and drug use disorders are chronic but treatable diseases that involve brain chemistry, just as diabetes and heart disease are chronic but treatable medical conditions.

Recovery from alcohol and drug addiction is possible, and treatment is effective. People in recovery can and do become gainfully employed, own homes, and rejoin their families and their communities. The challenge is to bring that treatment to all who need it, and there are many such people in our community. More than **[number]** of **[your city or state here]**'s residents have alcohol or drug use disorders, yet only an estimated **[number]** have accessed the area's treatment facilities.

For many in our community, alcohol and drug use disorders take an enormous toll, but we do not have to let them solve their problem alone. Daily, throughout every part of the United States, men, women, and youth are entering treatment and beginning the road to recovery. Entire families are breaking the cycle of addiction and are embracing recovery through support programs and counseling services. Right here in **[your city or state here]**, we are **[talk about specific drug and alcohol treatment programs or initiatives taking place in your community]**. Our community salutes those in our neighborhoods who are in recovery and the counseling and program staff who brought them out of the darkness.

That is why I am asking all citizens of **[your city or state here]** to join me in celebrating this September as *National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month*. This year's theme, **"Join the Voices for Recovery... Now!"** invites all of us to take immediate action to guide those in our community who need drug and alcohol treatment toward the promising path of recovery.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; the Office of National Drug Control Policy; and **[the state of (your state)/the municipality of (your municipality)/the city of (your city)/name of a treatment organization in your community/etc. here]** welcome your participation in *Recovery Month*.

NOW, THEREFORE I, [**name and title of your elected official here**], do hereby
proclaim the month of September 2004 as

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

in [**name of your city or state here**] and encourage all residents to promote the benefits of
drug and alcohol treatment and recovery and to support community treatment programs.

Signature