



SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL
Snohomish County, Washington

RESOLUTION NO. 22-045

**EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A JOINT STATEMENT AND RECOGNIZING
AUGUST 31, 2022, AS OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a profound impact on our residents' mental and behavioral health. The lingering effects of the pandemic have caused new conditions for some people and exacerbated existing conditions for many others as well; and

WHEREAS, over the last two and a half years, we have been challenged by a pandemic and an epidemic, COVID-19 and substance use disorder. In 2021, fatal overdoses increased by 9%, and fatal opioid-related overdoses increased by 5.4%, and 710 people were saved using Naloxone in Snohomish County. As we reflect on this data, it's important to recognize this information represents the loss of 254 community members to overdose in 2021 and the family, friends, and loved ones they have left behind; and

WHEREAS, as your elected officials, we recognize the severity of this pandemic and epidemic and remain committed to supporting prevention and intervention services, raising awareness, creating opportunities for dialogue in our communities, and educating community members about addiction and overdose prevention; and

WHEREAS, we offer our condolences to the families and friends that grieve the loss of their loved ones and extend our support for residents in our community that are struggling with the disease of addiction; and


WHEREAS, we also extend our gratitude to the Lee family, Warfield family, and Hope Soldiers for their tireless commitment to raising awareness and preventing overdoses throughout Snohomish County. Over the last six years, the Lee family, Warfield family, and Hope Soldiers have organized and facilitated an Overdose Awareness Day Vigil and Resource Fair. The Snohomish County Opioid Response Multi-Agency Coordination Group has been honored to partner with them in this important effort; and

WHEREAS, the Overdose Awareness Day Vigil and Resource Fair provides community members that have lost loved ones, space to be in community with one another and to honor those loved ones. It also provides people in active addiction and in recovery an opportunity to connect with much needed resources and services; and

WHEREAS, we extend an invitation to all Snohomish County residents to join us in honoring Overdose Awareness Day by attending the vigil and resource fair on Wednesday, August 31st at 5:00 p.m. on the Snohomish County Campus in Everett;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Snohomish County Council does hereby recognize the impacts overdose has on our community and proclaims August 31, 2022, as Overdose Awareness Day in Snohomish County and authorize the Chair of the County Council to sign the joint statement.

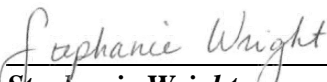
APPROVED this 24th day of August, 2022.



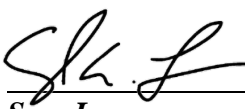
Megan Dunn
Council Chair



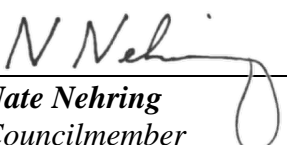
Jared Mead
Council Vice-Chair




Stephanie Wright
Councilmember



Sam Low
Councilmember



Nate Nehring
Councilmember

ATTEST: 

Debbie Eco, CMC
Clerk of the Council