BURKE COUNTY
NORTH CAROLINA

PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 2026 AS NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH IN BURKE COUNTY

WHEREAS, behavioral health is an essential component of overall health and wellness; and

WHEREAS, prevention, treatment, and recovery services for mental health conditions and substance use disorders are vital to improving the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, overdoses and overdose fatalities in Burke County continue to present significant public health challenges, underscoring the need for expanded prevention efforts, treatment options, and recovery support services; and

WHEREAS, preventing and overcoming substance use disorder is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, educating families, friends, and community members about substance use disorders helps promote prevention, recognize the signs of a problem, reduce stigma, and connect individuals to appropriate treatment and recovery resources; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder is a public health issue that affects individuals, families, workplaces, and communities throughout Burke County and across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the use of fentanyl and other dangerous opioids, as well as substances contaminated with potent sedatives, continues to threaten the health and safety of our community; and

WHEREAS, Burke County recognizes the importance of prevention, treatment, recovery support, and community partnerships in helping individuals and families affected by substance use disorder lead healthy and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, Burke Wellness Initiative and Burke Substance Abuse Network invite Burke County residents to participate in National Recovery Month activities on Saturday, September 5, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Catawba Meadows Park, celebrating hope, healing, and recovery for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Burke County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaims September 2026 as National Recovery Month in Burke County, North

Carolina, and calls upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, schools, healthcare providers, faith-based organizations, and community partners to increase awareness and understanding of substance use disorders, support prevention efforts, expand access to treatment and recovery resources, and stand in solidarity with individuals and families as they work to overcome challenges, embrace wellness, and build brighter futures.

Approved this 6th day of August 2026.

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Jeffrey C. Brittain, Chairman
Burke County Board of Commissioners