Proclamation
National Recovery Month – September 2024

WHEREAS according to Kaiser Family Foundation, two thirds of Americans report their lives have been impacted by substance use disorders and addiction, regardless of race, gender, age, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS Henderson County Emergency Medical Services received more than 500 calls in 2023 for suspected overdose, with the Opioid Crisis transitioning to a Poly-substance Crisis in Henderson County

WHEREAS substance use disorders are preventable and treatable conditions; recovery is a process that transforms individuals and the communities in which they live by creating hope, health, and a sense of purpose; and

WHEREAS the focus of Recovery Month in September is to celebrate all people that make the journey of recovery; to increase awareness and understanding of substance use disorders; to show respect and support for those in recovery, as well as those who have helped them obtain treatment; to highlight the importance of evidence-based treatment and recovery practices; and

WHEREAS North Carolina is receiving $1.5 billion in opioid settlement funds over 16 years, of which Henderson County is receiving $16 million to bring resources to our community harmed by the opioid epidemic and to increase options for recovery treatment and support services; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED we, Fletcher Town Council, do hereby proclaim September 2024 as Recovery Month. As the governing body for Fletcher, North Carolina, we call upon the citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to commit our community to work together to end the stigma of substance use disorders and addiction with increased awareness and understanding, and support those in their journey of recovery.

Henderson County Substance Misuse Action Team will have a community event dedicated to challenging substance use stigma and celebrate the journey of recovery on Tuesday, September 17th, 2024, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at Grace Lutheran Church

Approved this the 9th day of September 2024

_____
Mayor Preston Blakely

ATTEST:

_____
Christine Thompson MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk