

Proclamation

Designating August 31, 2023 as International Overdose Awareness Day

Whereas, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on the 31st of August each year that aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths; and

Whereas, opioid misuse and overdose has increased dramatically across the country, in Florida, and in Indian River County with a 200% increase in overdose calls from 2019 to 2022 in Indian River County alone; and

Whereas, according to Florida Health Charts, in 2022 there were 624 reported overdoses, 290 naloxone (aka Narcan) administrations, and 60 reported deaths, representing an increase in deaths from the 55 reported deaths in 2021; and

Whereas, International Overdose Awareness Day is one opportunity to remember community residents, friends, and family that have been lost to overdose death and to promote strategies that can prevent future overdose deaths; and

Whereas, access to naloxone is proven to reduce the prevalence of drug overdose death; and

Whereas, the Indian River County Commissioners are dedicated to protecting the health and safety of our community and educating our residents on the dangers of substance misuse, including Fentanyl which is driving the increase in overdose rates and now can be found in many substances of abuse.

Now, Therefore, be it Proclaimed by the Board of County Commissioners of Indian River County, Florida, that August 31, 2023, be designated as **International Overdose Awareness Day**, and call upon our community to observe this occasion with compelling programs and events that support this year's observance.

Adopted this 15th day of August, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS,
INDIAN RIVER COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Joseph H. Earman, Chairman

Susan Adams, Vice Chairman

Joseph E. Flescher

Deryl Loar

Laura Moss