



Proclamation

DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS JACKSON COUNTY OPIOID AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the disease of substance use disorder and overdose deaths pose a threat to the life, health, and well-being of Jackson County residents and family units; and

WHEREAS, twenty-two (22) Jackson County residents lost their lives to opioid overdoses in 2021 alone; and

WHEREAS, Jackson County has a significantly higher rate of medication and drug overdose deaths, and opioid-related deaths, when compared to the state, and three (3) of the four (4) surrounding counties; and

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic has contributed to a rise in serious and costly health consequences; and a significant rise in the number and rate of hospitalizations associated with drug withdrawal in newborns and a rise in the number of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, a lack of behavioral health services, treatment facilities, and harm reduction measures in the region leave residents and families without access to resources for help; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder and overdose deaths cause pain, suffering, and loss to individuals, families, and communities, across all demographics and regardless of socioeconomic status, that can never be measured.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County that September is Jackson County Opioid Awareness Month.

ADOPTED the 16th day of August 2022.

Attest:

By:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman