



WHEREAS, National Recovery Month is observed each September to celebrate the millions of people living in recovery and honor those whom we have lost to substance misuse, recognize the families and communities who support them, and promote the message that recovery is real; and

WHEREAS, addiction and related mental health disorders affect individuals, families, workplaces, schools, and communities across every region, background, and political affiliation; and

WHEREAS, stigma remains a great barrier preventing people from seeking help, accessing treatment, and sustaining recovery; and

WHEREAS, preventing and overcoming substance misuse and mental health disorders is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles; we must all work to recognize the signs of misuse and guide those in need to seek treatment and recovery support services; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville remains committed to building a recovery-ready community where people have access to evidence-based treatment, peer and family support, harm reduction, stability, and public policies that reduce barriers to care; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville acknowledges the peer recovery coaches, counselors, social service and healthcare providers, and family members who provide the compassion, encouragement, and love necessary to help our residents achieve and sustain long-term recovery; and

WHEREAS, the Maryland Office of Overdose Response reported that in early 2026 fatal overdoses in Maryland dropped to 1,767, a 37% decrease from 2,800 in 2021, demonstrating the positive impact of collaborative prevention and a need to continue efforts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville, as part of **Rockville Goes Purple** for the month of September, has lit city buildings in purple to support those struggling with addiction and in recovery. Additionally, several events will take place including, but not limited to: the International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) event on August 29, sponsored by Montgomery County and Montgomery Goes Purple; a panel discussion and movie screening of "La Estrella" with an introduction by Lieutenant Governor Aruna Miller on September 30; a community Naloxone training and distribution; and Drug Take Back Day in October; and,

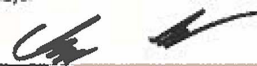
WHEREAS, the City of Rockville will continue to use the **Opioid Restitution Fund** to support community partners leading community-based efforts; and

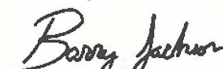
NOW, THEREFORE, the Mayor and Council of the City of Rockville do hereby proclaim **September 2026** as **National Recovery Month in Rockville** and urge residents to continue to prevent overdoses, support prevention, and promote recovery for all.




Monique Ashton, Mayor


Kate Fulton, Councilmember


Izola (Zola) Shaw, Councilmember


Barry Jackson, Councilmember


Mahsa Valeri, Councilmember


David Myles, Councilmember


Adam Van Grack, Councilmember

September 14, 2026