

Proclamation

Prescription Opioid and Heroin Epidemic Awareness Month-October 2017

Whereas There has been a simultaneous rise in opioid use and abuse associated with adverse outcomes, (e.g. addiction, overdose deaths, insufficient pain relief and treatment alternatives) leading the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), The Indiana State Department of Health, the Porter County Health Department and the elected officials in Porter County to classify the overuse and abuse of heroin and opioid drugs as an “epidemic”.

Whereas The Porter County Health Department and *Stakeholders* are encouraging medical doctors and care providers to consider alternative options as a first line of unified defense, by implementing safe practices and pain management as well as opioid abuse prevention and addiction support to address this crisis.

Whereas We believe we are stronger when every agency has an opportunity to contribute to the Porter County Health EPIDEMIC. By working collaboratively each person has a better chance at success as we unlock their individual potential and empower them to serve others in the same way.

Whereas Too often, we expect people struggling with substance use disorder to self-diagnose and seek treatment. This month, we re-affirm our commitment to raising awareness about this EPIDEMIC, supporting Prevention and Education programs and access to treatment services. Let us assure everyone with an opioid abuse disorder that they can embark on the road to recovery and together, let us begin to turn the tide of this EPIDEMIC!

Whereas Today is the day we stand together with renewed resolution and say “Enough is enough!” We fight one of the most devastating crises facing our community today—the Public Health CRISIS of OPIOID ABUSE and HEROIN. Our work has barely begun so we strive to keep reaching to implement better policies and deliver more resources that are so desperately needed.

Whereas The Porter County Health Department call upon Public Officials, Legislators, Educators, the Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and Community leaders from across Porter County to continue with the implementation of these activities and programs.

Therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED** that Porter County Board of Commissioners officially joins the Porter County Health Department and Stakeholders in proclaiming

PRESCRIPTION OPIOID AND HEROIN EPIDEMIC AWARENESS MONTH, OCTOBER 2017.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Porter County Board of Commissioners hereunto set this date, September 19, 2017.

Jeffrey J. Good, President

Jim Biggs, Vice President

Laura M. Blaney

Date proclaimed _____