



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** Overdose Awareness Day is recognized around the world as an occasion to acknowledge those who have experienced an overdose, as well as loved ones who have been affected; and
- WHEREAS,** Overdose Awareness Day aims to publicly challenge the stigma associated with substance use disorders and overdosing, and sends a message to current and former drug users that their lives are valued; and
- WHEREAS,** addiction is a disease and the discrimination associated with addiction must be addressed so that no one feels shame or disgrace because of a drug overdose; and
- WHEREAS,** overdoses can occur in people who have an addiction to substances as well as those who do not, such as someone accidentally overdosing on prescription opioids after a surgery or an injury, an elderly person consuming too much of a prescribed pain reliever, a teenager experimenting with illegal drugs for the first time or a child ingesting opioid pills or powders from a home medicine cabinet; and
- WHEREAS,** over the last 20 years, drug overdose deaths have increased significantly in many parts of the world and continue to worsen. Each year a number of deaths are reported, which is currently predominantly driven by opioids and stimulants, in combination with other drugs; and
- WHEREAS,** 71,000 people died of an overdose in the United States in 2019, and 1,062 people died of an overdose in the state of Colorado in 2019; and
- WHEREAS,** Adams County ranks fourth in the state for the most overdose deaths since 2000; and
- WHEREAS,** this day spreads the message that the tragedy of overdose death is preventable and empowers people to come together to tackle the issue of overdosing as a community.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Meredith Leighty, Mayor of the City of Northglenn, Colorado, do hereby proclaim August 31st, 2020 as

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Northglenn and urge residents to recognize the purpose of this important day, honor the individuals whose lives have been lost, and acknowledge the grief felt by families, friends, and communities.

DATED, at Northglenn, Colorado, this 24th day of August 2020.


MEREDITH LEIGHTY
Mayor

