

STATE OF ARKANSAS
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS COME – GREETINGS:

WHEREAS: Behavioral health is an essential part of the health and wellness of Arkansas residents; and

WHEREAS: Prevention of substance abuse and/or mental health disorders does work and treatment can be effective. It is estimated that 46,000 people are in recovery in Arkansas and 23 million are in recovery across the nation; and

WHEREAS: Untreated substance abuse and mental health disorders negatively affect individuals, families and communities. The criminal justice system, the child welfare system, family and social services agencies and community organizations are also adversely impacted; and

WHEREAS: Recent cost-benefit studies consistently find the benefits to society resulting from the treatment of alcohol, substance use and/or mental health disorders include reducing drug use by fifty percent, crime by eighty percent and arrests by up to 64 percent. The studies also find improvement in employment and an increase in overall social functioning of the individuals who have been treated; and

WHEREAS: The State of Arkansas and the Arkansas Community Corrections Drug Court Treatment Program join with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) in observing National Recovery Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ASA HUTCHINSON, Governor of the State of Arkansas, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the laws of the State of Arkansas, do hereby proclaim September 2015, as

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH IN ARKANSAS

and I urge my fellow citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities and ceremonies.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Arkansas to be affixed this 25th day of August, in the year of our Lord 2015.



Asa Hutchinson, Governor

Attest:

Mark Martin, Secretary Of State