



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, today we join families, advocates, friends, non-profits, mentors, lawmakers, hospitals and healthcare providers in recognizing an annual global event held each year to raise awareness of overdoses, reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths, and acknowledge the grief felt by so many; and

*W*HEREAS, Connecticut residents are more likely to die from unintentional drug overdose than a motor vehicle accident. The majority of these deaths are linked to overdose of prescription opioid painkillers and illicit opioids; and

*W*HEREAS, the stigma of addiction can be a barrier to preventing someone who is in need from seeking help and has been an epidemic that has uprooted the lives of people from all socio-economic backgrounds, races, and ages; and

*W*HEREAS, together we can stop the stigma. Addiction is a disease, and like any disease, treatment can help. With patience and support, there are resources and treatment options available no matter what stage individuals find themselves. Recovery is possible; and

*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, in memory of the countless lives lost and those we can help save together, do hereby officially proclaim August 31, 2020 as

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR