

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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## Franklin County Commissioners join the voices for recovery to strengthen families and communities

September 5, 2017 – FRANKLIN COUNTY, PA – Today the Franklin County Commissioners proclaimed September 2017 as Recovery Month in Franklin County. The commissioners were joined by President Judge Carol Van Horn, District Attorney Matt Fogal, Ted Reed from the Coroner's office, and approximately 20 representatives from county offices, local non-profits and human services providers in support of the proclamation.

According to April Brown, Franklin & Fulton County Drug and Alcohol Administrator, the road to recovery is not a one-step solution. "It's a daily challenge and a long-term path to wellness," she noted.

Individuals who experience a mental and/or substance use disorder can oftentimes feel isolated and alone. "It's important that family members have the tools to start conversations about prevention, treatment and recovery," said Commissioner Bob Thomas.

Once the road to recovery begins, recovery support providers can help individuals and families progress down the road of recovery. "With the help of Recovery Support Specialists and Noah's House, a local recovery house for people with a substance use disorder, we're doing a better job of helping individuals in recovery," said Commissioner and Board Chairman Dave Keller.

"Never has there been such a coordinated effort in Franklin County to help individuals seek treatment and be successful in recovery, and we are fully supportive of these efforts," said President Judge Carol Van Horn.

Throughout the month of September, communities nationwide have the opportunity to recognize National Recovery Month and inspire and advocate for individuals and families who are seeking help. This year's Recovery Month theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Strengthen Families and Communities," reinforces that families and communities can make a difference.

Here's how to get involved:

 Check out SAMHSA's Recovery Month website, <u>www.recoverymonth.gov</u> which includes Recovery Month toolkits, resources and information;

- Visit the Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliances (PRO-A) website to learn about recovery events, employment, volunteer and advocacy opportunities throughout the Commonwealth by linking to www.pro-a.org for more information;
- Join us for the "Lights of Hope" event on September 9, 2017 from 7:30 p.m. 9:00 p.m. at the Summit Health Campus located at 12 St. Paul Drive, Chambersburg;
- Check out the Recovery Works Summit 2017 on September 13, 2017 and register at www.recoveryworkssummit.com;
- Join us for a family fun day, "Faith, Family, Future: Recovery Works Community Day" on September 23, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. at Noah's House located at 2138 Lincoln Way East, Chambersburg;
- Please join the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Recovery Advocacy Day's "Courage to Change" event on September 26, 2017 by visiting Facebook for more information.

"Together, we can promote the positive message that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover," added Commissioner Keller.

If you have any questions regarding the events listed above, please contact Franklin/Fulton Drug & Alcohol at 717-263-1256 or via email at <a href="mailto:ffda@franklincountypa.gov">ffgda@franklincountypa.gov</a> for more information.

