



Proclamation

DECLARING SEPTEMBER AS JACKSON COUNTY OPIOID AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic, overdose deaths, and substance misuse pose a threat to the life, health, and well-being of Jackson County residents; and

WHEREAS, life expectancy in the United States has declined for three years in a row for the first time since World War I, fueled in large part by a record number of drug overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, more people die from drug overdose deaths than car crashes; and

WHEREAS, ten (10) Jackson County residents lost their lives to opioid overdoses and 30 residents were rushed to the emergency room due to opioid overdoses in 2018 alone; and

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic has contributed to a rise in serious and costly health consequences; and

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic has contributed to a significant rise in the number and rate of hospitalizations associated with drug withdrawal in newborns and a rise in the number of children in foster care; and

WHEREAS, the opioid epidemic, overdose deaths, and substance misuse cause pain, suffering, and loss to individuals, families, and communities that can never be measured.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of Jackson County that September is Jackson County Opioid Awareness Month.

ADOPTED the 1st day of September, 2020.

Attest:

By:

Angela M. Winchester, Clerk to Board

Brian Thomas McMahan, Chairman