



Proclamation

WHEREAS, drug abuse and mental health conditions affect individuals, families, and communities across Marion County, Florida and the nation; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that visible, united efforts by community members be launched and sustained to prevent drug abuse and promote mental wellness; and

WHEREAS, substance use and mental health problems affect all communities nationwide. According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 31.9 million Americans age 12 and older are current illicit drug users and 47.6 million adults have a mental illness; and

WHEREAS, through National Prevention Week, people become more aware and able to recognize the signs of mental health and substance use disorders; and

WHEREAS, National Prevention Week will be celebrated in Marion County, Florida and across the nation on May 9-15, 2021; and

WHEREAS, we and others across the United States, recognize the seriousness of substance use and mental health issues in our communities, the power of prevention, and the tireless efforts of those working to make a difference; and

WHEREAS, The Community Council Against Substance Abuse, a workgroup of Marion County Children's Alliance, and numerous community partners further commit its resources to ensure that prevention continues to be a way of life for Marion County residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kent Guinn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Mayor of Ocala, do hereby proclaim May 9-15, 2021 as

NATIONAL PREVENTION WEEK

and encourage the people of Ocala to participate in drug prevention education activities, not only during this important week, but also throughout the year, making a visible statement that we are strongly committed to a drug-free healthy lifestyle.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 3rd day of May 2021.



Kent Guinn, Mayor
City of Ocala