

CITY OF MAPLE GROVE PROCLAMATION

International Overdose Awareness Day

August 31, 2023

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event that is held on August 31 of each year to raise awareness of overdose, reduce the stigma surrounding drug-related deaths, and remember those who have died or suffered permanent injury due to drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, in 2021, an estimated 107,622 drug overdose deaths occurred in the United States. Opioids were involved in an estimated 80,816 or 74.8% of those deaths; and

WHEREAS, per the Minnesota Department of Health, in 2021, 1,354 Minnesotans died from a drug overdose, the highest annual number of drug overdose deaths ever recorded. Of those, 977 were opioid-involved deaths, 90% of which involved fentanyl. In addition, another 4,248 experienced a nonfatal opioid-involved overdose.

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day spreads the message that the tragedy of overdose death is preventable and provides an opportunity for us to reflect on practical ways to prevent overdose in our community; and

WHEREAS, culture change happens in neighborhoods and local communities, and localities play a major role in assisting with the removal of the stigma of addiction and the normalization of recovery; and

WHEREAS, addiction is not a moral failing but a complex and treatable disease, and a life of recovery is possible; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for communities to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are diligently working toward recovery.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Mayor Mark Steffenson, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2023, as **INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY** in the City of Maple Grove, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

MARK STEFFENSON
Mayor