

Proclamation

According to the latest national figures, as many as 22.6 million people aged 12 or older in the United States are currently facing a substance use disorder. This is more than the number of people living with coronary heart disease, cancer or Alzheimer's disease combined. Four million of those with a substance use disorder have made the courageous choice to seek out treatment and embark on a path towards recovery. We need to recognize the achievements of those who seek treatment services, celebrate their success and find help for those still in need.

Treatment and long-term recovery from substance use disorders offers people another chance, a renewed outlook on life. Because these disorders can take a toll on the families of these individuals, as well as the communities in which they live, it is critical to offer treatment and recovery support. Doing so provides an opportunity to develop more productive and fulfilling lives.

Research shows that substance use disorders are medical conditions that can be effectively treated. Treatment for substance use disorders is just as effective as treatments for other chronic conditions, such as high blood pressure, asthma and diabetes. By creating an awareness in the community that substance use disorders are a treatable, yet still a serious health care problem, we can improve the quality of life of the entire community.

Studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path towards recovery. By offering a forum where individuals can share their real stories of long-term success drug or alcohol free, we can inspire others in need to actively seek help, thereby improving their lives, the lives of their families and the community as a whole.

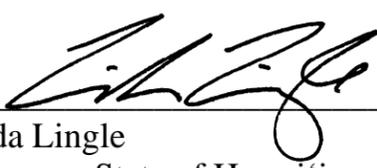
For the above reasons, we ask all citizens of Hawai'i to join in on celebrating this September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. This year's theme, Join the Voices for Recovery: Real People, Real Recovery, encourages us all to learn how to help those suffering from substance use disorders and their families receive treatment so our community can continue to benefit from their contributions.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim September 2008, as

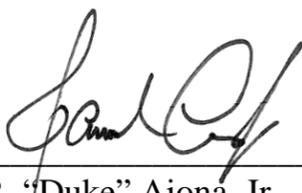
ALCOHOL & DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY AWARENESS MONTH

in Hawai'i, and call upon our community to be aware of the options available to those with substance use disorders.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this ninth day of September 2008.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i