

[Music]

Ivette Torres:

Hello, I'm Ivette Torres welcome and thank you for joining us for ***the Road to Recovery 2016 Kickoff Show.***

The ***Recovery Month*** observance celebrates people in recovery, raises our awareness and our understanding of mental and/or substance use disorders and recognizes those who work in the field of behavioral health.

The 2016 theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Our Families, Our Stories, Our Recovery!" highlights the personal recovery stories of families who have overcome mental and/or substance use disorders.

Millions of people are in recovery, but many more have yet to find their path to living self-directed lives and achieving their full potential. Sharing our family stories of recovery encourages others to seek treatment and find their own path to recovery.

Vivek Murthy:

We are doing the first ever surgeon generals' report on substance use, addiction and health. It's a landmark report that will bring together the best possible evidence around prevention, treatment and recovery.

Through this report, we are hoping to make sure that families and individuals, and hospitals and physicians and then local government have the tools that they need to figure out how to best prevent and treat substance use disorders. That's the intent of this report. But, it's also to raise awareness around the fact that addiction touches all of us. And if we really want to get a handle on it, if we really want to prevent so many more families from being touched by substance use and addiction, then we have to recognize the importance and the urgency of treating addiction. Not as something to be shunned, but as a chronic illness that deserves our care and compassion.

Female VO:

Recovery walks took place across the country in September. As tens of thousands gathered in local communities to celebrate the courage, the strength and the support that have helped so many experience first-hand that recovery is possible, that recovery can and does happen, and there is joy in recovery.

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