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## MOTION BY SUPERVISORS KATHRYN BARGER AND HOLLY MITCHELL

September 15, 2021

## **RECOVERY MONTH**

Celebrating its 32<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of promoting awareness that long-term recovery from mental and substance use disorders is possible, the annual National Recovery Month observance occurs each September highlighting the various entities that support recovery within our society. The theme for 2021 Recovery Month is **Recovery is For Everyone: Every Person, Every Family, Every Community**.

Mental and substance use disorders, including co-occurring disorders, affect all communities in Los Angeles County, but with commitment and support, people with these disorders can achieve healthy lifestyles and lead rewarding lives in recovery. By seeking help, people who experience mental and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders can embark on a new path toward improved health and overall wellness.

Substance use disorder service providers in both the public and private sector are making valuable contributions to the health and wellness for Los Angeles County residents seeking treatment. The societal benefits of supporting people in their recovery are incalculable. The Recovery Month observance continues to improve the lives of those affected by mental and substance use disorders and co-occurring disorders by raising awareness of these disorders and educating communities about the effective treatment, and recovery services that are available.

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Los Angeles County Department of Public Health will observe National Recovery Month with two events. In partnership with Special Services for Groups, the Al-Impics Planning Committee, and iHeartMedia, the annual Al-Impics will be held on Friday, September 17, 2021 from 3:00pm to 4:00pm. This years' virtual event invites everyone to "Erase the Stigma and Embrace the Change". It celebrates individual and community stories of perseverance and hope in the face of adversity through testimonials and collective artistic talents. During the month of September, Movies in the Park incorporates substance use prevention messaging, activities, and programs at public park settings.

**WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors** proclaim September 2021 as National Recovery Month in the County of Los Angeles.

For more information on the harms of excessive alcohol and drug use, and prevention resources visit: http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/sapc/.

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