



Proclamation

OCTOBER IS NATIONAL YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, every day, thousands of young Americans try drugs or alcohol for the first time, and for many, this decision will have a profound impact on their health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, every day, far too many young Americans are hurt by alcohol and drug use. From diminished achievement in our schools, to greater risks on our roads and in our communities, to the heartache of lives cut tragically short, the consequences of substance use are profound; and

WHEREAS, preventing substance use before it begins is the most effective way to eliminate the damage caused by drugs and alcohol. Together, we can make sure children have the opportunity to pursue happy, fulfilling and productive lives; and

WHEREAS, adult role models play an integral role in preventing youth substance use, we must lead by example, adopt positive behaviors, and talk to our kids about living substance-free. This month, we stand with local coalitions and community organizations as they advance their drive to keep the young people in our community free from drug and alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, substance use affects everyone, and each of us can play a part in helping the next generation make choices that support physical, mental, behavioral and emotional health. Parents, mentors, and community members can model a healthy lifestyle. During National Youth Substance Use Prevention Month, we recognize all those who work to prevent substance use in our community.

THEREFORE, I, the Damien Boley, Mayor of the City of Smithville do hereby officially proclaim the month of October

Youth Substance Use Prevention Month

in the City of Smithville, Missouri. Furthermore, I invite all our citizens to duly note this occasion by doing all we can to support all community prevention and education programs and make youth substance use prevention a priority.

Dated this 15th day of October 2024.

Damien Boley, Mayor