

Proclamation Recognizing National Prevention Week

Whereas substance misuse and mental health problems affect individuals, families, and communities across the United States; and

Whereas according to the 2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 70.3 million Americans ages 12 and older used illicit drugs in the past year; nearly 6 million young people (ages 12 to 20) reported drinking alcohol in the past month; nearly 23 percent of Americans (64 million people) aged 12 and older used tobacco products or vaped nicotine in the past month; and 8.5 million Americans misused prescription pain relievers; and

Whereas these issues continue to impact our nation's youth, adults, and families, with 29.5 million people aged 12 and older living with alcohol use disorder and approximately 59.3 million adults experiencing a mental illness in the past year; and

Whereas the impact of mental health and substance misuse disorders is evident in our own community, with an estimated 158,000 people in Hidalgo County affected by these conditions; and

Whereas prevention is a powerful and proactive tool that can reduce the prevalence of substance misuse and mental health challenges. With the commitment of individuals, families, coalitions, and communities, these issues can be addressed through education, early intervention, and access to evidence-based care; and

Whereas National Prevention Week is an annual observance dedicated to increasing public awareness of, and action around, mental health and substance use disorders. It serves as a platform to highlight the work of prevention partners and to share stories that demonstrate the strength and impact of prevention; and

Whereas through National Prevention Week, communities across the country—including those in Hidalgo County—can empower individuals to recognize signs of mental health and substance use disorders, and to participate in implementing strategies that promote health and wellness.

Now, therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court does hereby recognize May 11-17 as National Prevention Week and encourages residents to join in this observance by supporting programs and events that promote mental wellness and substance abuse prevention.

Approved this 13th day of May 2025.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: _____
ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk