

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, On August 31st, people in Minnesota, will observe the 24th International Overdose Awareness Day; and

WHEREAS, International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is about remembering the loved ones we have lost and acknowledging the grief of family and friends left behind; and

WHEREAS, the 109,680 overdose deaths in 2022 are the highest recorded in a calendar year, and more than two-thirds (more than 75,000) involved a synthetic opioid; and

WHEREAS, according to the Mayo Clinic, it is stated that drug addictions, now called Substance Misuse and Substance Use Disorder, is a disease that affects the brain and behaviour, which leads to an inability to control the use of a legal or illicit drugs, or medicine; and

WHEREAS, it is being recommended that our children, teens, young adults and their families need to be made aware of the substances available in our communities and neighborhoods and the deadly dangers that are involved. Education is the first step to prevention, and

WHEREAS, social media is making it easier for young people to obtain all forms of Substances, from Marijuana to heroin. It can be delivered through social media, directly to their homes, and

WHEREAS, Naloxone is the medication that can immediately reverse opioid overdose, by taking the place of the opioids in the brain, and is now widely available to the public, to save lives; and

WHEREAS, Steve's Law has been put into place to provide protection and encourage bystanders to intervene in a crisis situation. Steve's Law encourages bystanders to seek help and stay with the victim, until help arrives, as it provides protection for bystanders from criminal prosecution.

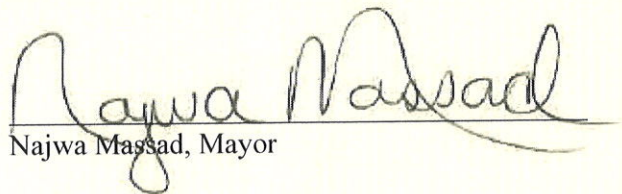
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Najwa Massad, Mayor of Mankato, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2024, as

INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

in the City of Mankato.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the City of Mankato to be affixed this 12th day of August 2024.




Najwa Massad, Mayor