



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** October is Substance Abuse Prevention Month, when the focus promotes prevention efforts and demonstrates commitment to healthy and drug-free lifestyles; and
- WHEREAS,** Addiction is one of the most rapidly growing epidemics, in which millions of people aged 12 or older have had a substance use disorder related to their use of alcohol and other drugs; and
- WHEREAS,** Only 1.4 percent of people aged 12 or older received any substance use treatment last year; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2019 Williamson County Community Health Assessment reports that 22.2% of adults in Williamson County reported excessively drinking compare with 18% nationwide, which indicates that substance use disorders should be a primary concern county-wide.
- WHEREAS,** Research shows that drug addiction is preventable and treatable. According to Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, for each dollar invested in an evidence-based prevention program, there can be a reduced cost between \$2 and \$20 in treatment and other health related expenses; and
- WHEREAS,** Since 1978, LifeSteps has been working in Williamson County to improve our community's health, safety, and well-being by preventing substance use disorders and supporting long-term recovery; and
- WHEREAS,** LifeSteps Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition works to engage, inform, and empower the community to prevent and reduce substance abuse and other behavioral health disorders among youth; and
- WHEREAS,** #iLiveRed, a campaign launched by the LifeSteps Coalition that encourages **R**esilient, **E**mpowered, and **D**rug-free lives, seeks to raise awareness of addiction and promote positive drug-free messages that will engage Williamson County citizens in leading healthier lifestyles; and
- WHEREAS,** Organizations such as the Williamson County and Cities Health District, the Drug Enforcement Administration – Austin, the Joint Counterdrug Task Force, and LifeSteps Coalition partners are collaborating to promote Red Ribbon Week activities to raise a commitment to a healthy and drug-free lifestyle;
- NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Williamson County Commissioners Court supports LifeSteps Council on Alcohol and Drugs and hereby proclaim October 2019 as Substance Abuse Prevention Month and October 24 -31 as Red Ribbon Week and encourages its citizen to engage in prevention efforts that promote positive lifestyle changes.

Signed on this date: _____

Bill Gravell, County Judge

Terry Cook, Commissioner Precinct 1

Valerie Covey, Commissioner Precinct 3

Cynthia Long, Commissioner Precinct 2

Russ Boles, Commissioner Precinct 4