

A Proclamation
By
Governor Ronnie Musgrove

WHEREAS, on behalf of the citizens of Mississippi, I am pleased to join the Mississippi Department of Mental Health and Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse in celebrating September 2003 as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month; and

WHEREAS, acknowledging September 2003 offers those involved in substance abuse treatment an opportunity to educate the public, community organizations, public officials, and civic leaders about the effectiveness of treatment, both societal and financial; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse and co-occurring mental disorders and co-existing physical illnesses are major public health problems that affect millions of Americans of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds and in all communities, and have huge medical, societal, and economic costs; and

WHEREAS, people with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders can and do recover, and people with co-occurring substance abuse and mental disorders deserve access to the services they need to recover; and

WHEREAS, thousands of health care providers have dedicated their lives to the recovery process and to the education of the public about alcoholism, drug dependence, co-occurring disorders, and treatment issues; and

WHEREAS, the NGA Centers for Best Practices, Mississippi Department of Mental Health Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment and the Office of National Drug Control Policy invite all residents of Mississippi to participate in National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ronnie Musgrove, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim September 2003, as

National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month

in the State of Mississippi and encourage all residents to support this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Celebrating Health" by supporting men, women, and youth who are in drug and alcohol addiction treatment and recovery, and their families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, August 29, 2003, in the two hundred and twenty-seventh year of the United States of America.

RONNIE MUSGROVE
GOVERNOR