

**(7 BCC approved in 2025; updated the theme for 2026)**

## **NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH**

**WHEREAS,** behavioral health is an essential part of overall health and well-being, and prevention of mental and substance use disorders works, treatment is effective, and people recover in our area and across the nation; and

**WHEREAS,** National Recovery Month celebrates the gains made by those in recovery, just as we celebrate improvements made by those who are managing other health conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** the 2026 theme continues to focus on individualized pathways and holistic health, with a strong emphasis on the message, "Treatment works, find a path that works for you."; and

**WHEREAS,** substance use disorders are treatable, chronic health conditions, and with the proper support and care, individuals can and do recover, leading full, productive lives; and

**WHEREAS,** community support is essential to recovery, and we must foster environments that promote safety, compassion, and understanding for those affected by substance use and mental health conditions; and

**WHEREAS,** stigma and discrimination remain significant barriers to recovery, and it is our collective responsibility to educate ourselves and others, challenge misconceptions, and create a culture that embraces safety, hope, and healing; and

**WHEREAS,** Pinellas County is committed to supporting individuals and families on their recovery journeys by promoting access to services, advocating for equitable treatment, and celebrating the strength and resilience of our recovery community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners that September 2026, be recognized as

## **NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH**

**FURTHER,** we call upon residents, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to support this observance by promoting safety and awareness, encouraging treatment, and celebrating the power of recovery.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** we have set our hands and caused the seal of Pinellas County, Florida, to be affixed hereto on this XX<sup>th</sup> day of September 2026.