RESOLUTION

106(21)

March 17, 2021

WHEREAS, National Alcohol Awareness Month is a public health program organized by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence in April 1987 as a way of increasing outreach and education regarding the dangers of alcoholism and issues related to alcohol; and

WHEREAS, a big part of the work of National Alcohol Awareness Month is to point out the stigma that still surrounds alcoholism and substance abuse in general. One goal is to point out that denial is a major characteristic of alcohol abuse, both from the person currently experiencing it and from friends and family members who are uncomfortable acknowledging the gravity of the situation; and

WHEREAS, alcohol is the number one drug of choice for America's young people and a primary factor in the four leading causes of death for young person's ages 10-21; and

WHEREAS, alcohol use by young people is extremely dangerous, both to themselves and to society, and is directly associated with traffic fatalities, violence, suicide, educational failure, alcohol overdose, unsafe sex and other problem behaviors. Annually, over 6,500 people under the age of 21 die from alcohol-related accidents and thousands more are injured; and

WHEREAS, additionally, 7,000 kids in the United States under the age of 16 take their first drink and those who begin drinking before age 15 are four times higher to develop alcoholism than those who begin after the age of 21; and

WHEREAS, 25% of U.S. children are exposed to alcohol-use disorders in their family and it is estimated that as many as 20 million individuals are living lives in recovery; and

WHEREAS, National Alcohol Awareness Month gives public health bodies, community centers, and treatment facilities the chance to increase their efforts to reach people who may not fully appreciate the dangers of unhealthy alcohol consumption.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health proclaims April as NATIONAL ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH 2021 in Ocean County to increase awareness of the dangers and issues associated with alcohol abuse.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be sent to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners, and Ocean County LACADA members.

Name	Bacchione	Blake	Crea	Hill	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes		V					~		
Abstain									
Nays									
Absent									

Secretary/Treasurer