

# Proclamation

## by Governor Jim Justice

**Whereas,** substance use and mental health problems affect all communities nationwide. According to the 2021 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 61.2 million Americans 12 years of age and older used illicit drugs in the past year; and

**Whereas,** there is a need for public education that promotes the utilization of evidence-based and accessible prevention programs, strategies, and resources year-round that facilitate collective action; and

**Whereas,** it is appropriate that a week should be set apart each year to showcase the work of partners in prevention and confront the societal challenges surrounding substance misuse together while also sharing stories of prevention; and

**Whereas,** through *National Prevention Week*, people may become more aware and able to recognize the signs of mental health and substance use disorders. Equally important, community members from all walks of life learn how they can help build community, strengthen resilience, and create hope to keep those around them – and themselves – healthy and safe.

**Now, Therefore,** Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim *May 7-13, 2023* as:

## *National Prevention Week*

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to observe this week with compelling programs and events that support increasing awareness of, and action around, mental health and/or substance use disorders.


**In Witness Whereof,** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

**Done** at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Fourth day of May, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.



  
Jim Justice  
Governor

*By the Governor:*

  
Mac Warner  
Secretary of State