

# STATE OF MICHIGAN



## CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,  
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

August 31, 2025

as

### OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

**WHEREAS**, International Overdose Awareness Day is recognized globally on August 31 to raise awareness about the risks of overdose, honor the individuals whose lives have been lost, and acknowledge the grief felt by families, friends, and the community; and,

**WHEREAS**, Overdose Awareness Day aims to publicly challenge the stigma associated with substance use disorders and overdose; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, 2,931 individuals died from a drug overdose in Michigan and of those deaths, 78 % were opioid-involved, representing 23.1 deaths per 100,000 residents. Preliminary data showed 1,916 deaths in 2024, a 34.6% decrease from 2023; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2024 naloxone administrations were 10.5 per 1,000 patient encounters according to Emergency Medical Services. Naloxone continues to be an important necessity for first responders, emergency personnel, family, friends, and non-EMS professions; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, the rate of fatal drug overdoses among Black, non-Hispanic residents was nearly three times as high as white, non-Hispanic residents. Black residents also experienced a higher rate of drug overdoses resulting in emergency department visits; and,

**WHEREAS**, in 2023, nearly 1.8 million people in Michigan, ages 12 and older, had used an illicit drug in the past month; and,

**WHEREAS**, today, we join with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and various community networks to provide an opportunity for people to publicly mourn for loved ones without feeling guilt or shame and send a message of caring and support to those suffering from a substance use disorder;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, and Garlin Gilchrist II, lieutenant governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2025, as Overdose Awareness Day in Michigan.

Handwritten signature of Garlin Gilchrist II in blue ink.

Garlin Gilchrist II  
Lieutenant Governor

Handwritten signature of Gretchen Whitmer in blue ink.

Gretchen Whitmer  
Governor

