



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**PROCLAMATION**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

**WHEREAS**, behavioral health is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness; and

**WHEREAS**, prevention of mental health disorders and substance use disorders works; treatment is effective, and people can and do recover from mental health disorders and substance use disorders; and

**WHEREAS**, people in recovery can achieve healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally, and contribute in positive ways to their communities; and

**WHEREAS**, recovery goes beyond treatment and abstinence to encompass the lifelong process of improved health, wellness, and quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary to educate society on mental health disorders and substance use disorders to decrease the stigma placed on individuals with a mental health disorder and/or substance use disorder and their families;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2017 as

*Recovery Month*

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this seventeenth day of July, 2017.



*Bill Haslam*

Governor

*Lee Hargett*

Secretary of State