



STATE OF TENNESSEE
PROCLAMATION
BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, recovery courts are a key component of reform of our criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, there are now more than 3,000 recovery and specialized courts nationwide; and

WHEREAS, there are currently 77 recovery courts across Tennessee which includes Adult Drug Courts, Veteran Treatment Courts, Juvenile and Family Drug Courts, Adult Mental Health Courts, DUI Courts and Human Trafficking Court; and

WHEREAS, recovery courts have served more than 1.4 million individuals nationwide; and

WHEREAS, since July 1, 2013 there have been 6,920 individuals admitted into either an adult drug recovery court or a veteran treatment recovery court program in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, recovery courts can significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and reduce recidivism at less expense than many other criminal justice strategies; and

WHEREAS, recovery courts improve education, employment, housing, and financial stability, promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements, and decrease the number of babies born with neonatal abstinence syndrome; and

WHEREAS, recovery courts facilitate community partnerships, bringing together public safety officials, courts, and public health and treatment professionals; and

WHEREAS, recovery courts demonstrate that when just one person can break the cycle of substance use and crime, the individual, community, and state are better off;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim May, 2018 as

Drug and Recovery Court 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 twenty-third day of April, 2018.

Bill Haslam

Governor

Lee Pugh

Secretary of State