



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 and/or substance use disorders works, treatment is effective, and people recover in our area and around the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, preventing and overcoming mental and/or substance use disorders is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally; and

**WHEREAS**, we must encourage relatives and friends of people with mental and/or substance use disorders to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate treatment and recovery support services; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, 2.3 million people aged 12 or older received specialty treatment for a substance use disorder and 31.6 million adults aged 18 or older received mental health services, according to the 2011 National Survey on Drug Use and Health; and

**WHEREAS**, given the serious nature of this public health problem, we must continue to reach the millions more who need help; and

**WHEREAS**, to help more people achieve and sustain long-term recovery, we invite all residents of Tennessee to participate in National Recovery Month;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2013 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2013



A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Bill Haslam".

Governor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Joe Vestal".

Secretary of State