

**State of Vermont
Executive Department
A Proclamation**

WHEREAS, over sixty million individuals and families are living with mental health and substance use problems in the United States; and

WHEREAS, serious mental illness affects one in every four people annually; and

WHEREAS, more than twenty-three million adults once had drug or alcohol problems, but no longer do; and

WHEREAS, people living with these conditions need help and hope, including a community that supports them, their families and their recovery; and

WHEREAS, Vermont, like the rest of the nation, is addressing mental health and addiction by combining effective prevention, treatment and recovery support; and

WHEREAS, the health, well-being and quality of life of all Vermonters is impacted by these chronic, yet treatable, health conditions, and virtually all Vermonters know someone in their network of family or friends who is affected; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's mental health and addiction recovery organizations continue to educate the public and lawmakers about the effects of mental illness and addictions and the value of prevention, treatment and long-term recovery services; and

WHEREAS, Vermont's Recovery Day and National Recovery Month are designed to remind all citizens that mental illness and addiction are conditions that respond to proper and timely intervention, treatment, and recovery support services, including the support from peers who have successful recovery experiences; and

WHEREAS, recovery from mental health and addiction not only improves the health of the person, but adds to the recovery of the entire community; and

WHEREAS, February 17, 2016 was proclaimed Recovery Day in Vermont;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby recognize September 2016 as

NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH



Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 13th day of September, A.D. 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin", is written over a horizontal line.

Peter Shumlin
Governor