


Adelita S. Grijalva, District 5

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 11, 2021

**TO:** Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

**FROM:** Adelita Grijalva, District Five Supervisor 

**REGARDING:** Item for the August 16, 2021 agenda addendum

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Please add the following to the August 16, 2021 agenda addendum:

**Proclamation**

Declaring August 31, 2021, to be: "International Overdose Awareness Day." (District 5)

Thank you

AG 11/21/2021 15:00:00

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event on August 31st of each year to remember those gone from us too soon from overdose deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize the purpose of International Overdose Awareness Day is to remember loved ones lost to overdose and to end the stigma of drug-related deaths; and

**WHEREAS**, we resolve to play our part in reducing the toll of overdose in our community; and recognize that within the last decade in the state of Arizona more than 5,000 people have died in prescription painkiller-related cases, more than 2,000 lost their lives due to heroin-related causes and 5,932 perished from opioid-related causes; and

**WHEREAS**, like many states, Arizona is fighting concurrent epidemics — in 2021, similar to data from 2020, fentanyl and methamphetamine are driving deaths in Pima County, and illicit drugs are the primary drivers of deaths in suburban and urban areas; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge that in Pima County there were 446 deaths due to overdose in the year 2020 and for the first quarter of 2021 that number was 153; and

**WHEREAS**, we affirm that the people affected by overdoses are our sons and daughters, our mothers and fathers, our brothers and sisters and are deserving of our love, compassion and support; and

**WHEREAS**, we call on all Pima County residents to acknowledge International Overdose Awareness Day as an opportunity for us to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and beside those who have a substance-use disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, Pima County encourages communities to develop and support local coalitions because this epidemic looks different in various parts of the state and local engagement and leadership therefore is imperative; and

**WHEREAS**, culture change happens in neighborhoods and local communities play a major role in assisting with the removal of the stigma of addiction and the normalization of recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, addiction is not a moral failing but a complex and treatable disease, and a life of recovery is possible.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims Tuesday, August 31, 2021, to be:

**“INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY”**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 16th day of August 2021.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Julie Castañeda, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors