

RESOLUTION NO. R 014 18

A RESOLUTION PLEDGING SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT FOR THE SUSSEX GOES PURPLE INITIATIVE

WHEREAS, opioid addiction in America, including right here in Sussex County, is a deep and destructive societal concern that touches all walks of life, regardless of economic status; and

WHEREAS, Delaware is seeing firsthand the effects of the opioid epidemic, which includes the abuse of prescription pain relievers, heroin, and synthetic opioids such as fentanyl, with 345 fatal drug overdoses in the state in 2017, 64 of which occurred in Sussex County; and

WHEREAS, in that same year, emergency responders in Sussex County administered overdose-reversing drugs more than 570 times to nearly 400 individuals; and

WHEREAS, awareness and education are the cornerstones in the fight to address what has been termed a national crisis, and the stigmas often associated with it; and

WHEREAS, the national Project Purple campaign hopes to reverse these statistics by launching local initiatives here in Delaware, under the direction of the Sussex County Health Coalition; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse and addiction are treatable and recovery is possible; and

WHEREAS, Sussex Goes Purple is aimed at bringing about awareness, education and prevention to combat the scourge that opioid addiction represents to our communities; and

WHEREAS, through community-driven efforts such as the Sussex Goes Purple, lives can be saved and meaningful change can occur in our communities, one person at a time;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Sussex County Council does hereby join with other local governments across the state, region, and nation in proclaiming its support for the Purple Project, declaring Sussex County as a 'Goes Purple' community, and encourages all citizens to come together in the fight against opioid addiction.

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF RESOLUTION NO. R 014 18 ADOPTED BY THE SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL ON THE 2ND DAY OF OCTOBER 2018.

**ROBIN A. GRIFFITH
CLERK OF THE COUNCIL**