

NEWS RELEASE

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South Carolina Celebrates "Recovery Month"

COLUMBIA, S.C. – Governor Nikki Haley has proclaimed September as *Recovery Month* in South Carolina. (See attached proclamation.) During the month of September, communities statewide are encouraged to recognize the achievement of those who seek to overcome the stigma of addiction and secure the benefits of substance abuse treatment and recovery.

The theme of this year's *Recovery Month* in South Carolina is "Our Families, Our Stories, Our Recovery!"

"Educating our communities about how substance use disorders affect all people is essential to combating stigma and resolving misconceptions associated with addiction," Gov. Haley stated in her proclamation. "The mission of *Recovery Month* is to celebrate individuals who have achieved long-term recovery; to acknowledge those who work in the prevention, treatment and recovery services; and to encourage individuals and families in need to seek help."

"Thousands of South Carolinians are living in recovery from substance use disorders, and thousands more are striving to reach this goal," said Sara Goldsby, Acting Director of the S.C. Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS). "Every day, individuals, families, and communities take many different paths to wellness from the disease of addiction. It's important that we collectively honor and celebrate each journey."

To help celebrate *Recovery Month*, chapters of Faces and Voices of Recovery South Carolina (FAVOR SC) and other organizations are planning awareness events in cities around the state, including:

- The LRADAC Foundation is hosting "Rock for Recovery" night with the **Columbia Fireflies** on **Sept. 4**.
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rock-for-recovery-with-the-columbia-fireflies-tickets-26549573489>
- FAVOR Midlands and other partners will be hosting a viewing of **Generation Found**, a powerful story about one community coming together to ignite a youth addiction recovery revolution in their hometown, on **Sept. 26 at Dutch Square AMC Theaters**. <http://bit.ly/2biBQ2B>
- FAVOR Midlands will also host its annual **5K Dry Run & Walk** in Columbia on **Sept. 24**. (For more information, contact Mike Hedgecock, 803-237-6897.)
- FAVOR Lowcountry will hold a **Community Listening Session** on **Sept. 20 at Trident Technical College in North Charleston**. favorlowcountry.org
- **Rally for Recovery:**
 - FAVOR Tri-County – **Sept. 3 in Rock Hill** (favortricounty.org)
 - FAVOR Grand Strand – **Sept. 10 in Myrtle Beach** (favorgs.org/)
 - FAVOR Greenville – **Sept. 24 in Greenville** (favorgreenville.org)
 - FAVOR Pee Dee – **Sept. 24 in Florence** (favorpeedee.org)

For more information about local treatment services available in your area or local activities planned as part of *Recovery Month*, contact your county alcohol and drug abuse authority. (A list of the county authorities is attached.)

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The mission of DAODAS is to support healthy individuals, healthy families, and healthy communities. A cabinet agency, DAODAS is charged with ensuring quality services to prevent or reduce the negative consequences of substance use and addictions.