

PROCLAMATION

Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day - October 6, 2021

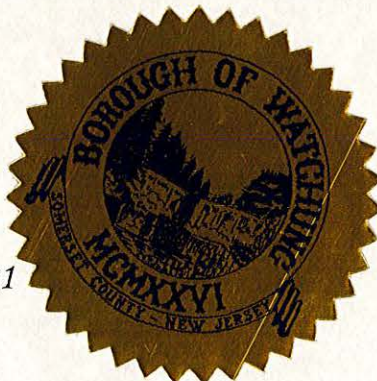
WHEREAS, *New Jersey is in the midst of a life-threatening opioid abuse epidemic; and*

WHEREAS, *the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey has designated October 6, 2021, as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day – an initiative with multiple purposes: to educate families of the addictive qualities of opioid pain medicines and its link to heroin and fentanyl use in our state; to reduce stigma of addiction and shine a light on the need for recovery support; and to communicate to physicians information on safer prescribing messages found in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for prescribing opioids, which include considering other therapies, setting realistic treatment goals with patients and discussing with patients the positives and negatives of opioids; and*

WHEREAS, *the State Senate and General Assembly jointly resolved that October 6 shall be permanently designated as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day in New Jersey in order to raise awareness about the dangers of, and the link between, prescription opioid abuse and heroin addiction and to educate health care providers, community leaders, state lawmakers and members of the public about the opioid abuse epidemic and its effects throughout the State of New Jersey and across the country; and*

WHEREAS, *the Borough of Watchung supports initiatives designed to raise awareness about opioid abuse in New Jersey and take steps to prevent addiction;*

NOW, THEREFORE, *I Keith S. Balla, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, State of New Jersey do hereby proclaim **October 6, 2021**, as **Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day** in the Borough of Watchung, and call upon our residents, businesses, and schools to foster a culture of caring and action around addiction and eliminate the stigma associated with addiction.*



Keith S. Balla
Keith S. Balla, Mayor

Adopted: September 22, 2021