

WHEREAS, alcohol abuse can lead to devastating mental and physical consequences for individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the average age of first time alcohol use is 13.7 years old; and

WHEREAS, results from the 2018 Arizona Youth Survey show that the most frequently reported substance ever used across 8th, 10th, and 12th grade youth is alcohol; and

WHEREAS, 11.1 percent of 12th graders in Arizona reported riding in a car in which the driver had been drinking; and

WHEREAS, excessive drinking is responsible for more than 4,300 deaths among underage youth each year; and

WHEREAS, 15 percent of adults in Arizona report binge drinking and 88,668 deaths are annually attributed to alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, research shows that parents are the number one reason why youth choose not to drink and a supportive family environment is associated with lower rates of alcohol use among adolescents; and WHEREAS, statewide prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts surrounding alcohol and substance abuse can help individuals, families, and children coping with alcoholism and alcohol-related problems. NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

ARIZONA ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

and call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools, and colleges in the State of Arizona to support efforts that will provide early education about alcoholism and addiction and increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism. Through these efforts, together, we can provide *Hope, Help, and Healing* for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use and abuse.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty first day of March in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Third.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE