

TOWN OF BLUFFTON NATIONAL DRUG AND ALCOHOL FACTS WEEK PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week is sponsored by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) at the National Institutes of Health; and

WHEREAS, National Drug Facts Week (NDFW) is an annual health observance for teens that will occur in the Spring of 2021 from March 22 to March 28 that aims to shatter the myths about drugs and drug abuse; and

WHEREAS, research shows that young people are more likely to try drugs for the first time during the summer, making spring a critical season for reaching teens with important messages about drug and alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism stimulates most of the world's research, and offers science as a key to the national and community conversation about alcohol, drugs, and addictions; and

WHEREAS, National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week's goal is to encourage teens to learn about scientifically based information about drugs, alcohol, and the impact on the developing teen brain and while alcohol and drugs can put a teenager's health and life in jeopardy, many teens are not aware of the health, social, and legal risks; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic presents an increased risk of being infected with COVID-19 when individuals use alcohol, smoke, and/or vape; and

WHEREAS, *National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week*[®] celebrates the efforts of national, community, and youth organizations to encourage science- based conversation about addiction, alcohol, marijuana, tobacco, and other drugs; and

WHEREAS, locally LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth and Teens for Healthy Youth are working to educate and increase awareness about the health, safety, and legal consequences of youth substance use and all of us have the power to effect change to prevent and reduce youth substance use and to be the best advocates for promoting positive choices for our youth, our future; and

WHEREAS, Teens for Healthy Youth, an initiative of LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth, has chosen the Town of Bluffton to officially launch their local efforts.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lisa Sulka, mayor of the Town of Bluffton, along with Bluffton Town Council, do hereby proclaim March 22 to March 28, 2021 to be National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week in the Town of Bluffton.

Lisa Sulka, Mayor