



Mayoral Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** across our state and nation, alcohol misuse is a major public health problem that affects people of all ages, races, and ethnic backgrounds; and,
- WHEREAS,** excessive alcohol consumption is associated with risky behavior, violence, suicide, homicide, and vehicular accidents; it is the third leading cause of preventable death in North Carolina; and,
- WHEREAS,** excessive alcohol consumption in North Carolina costs over \$7 billion a year in health care costs (including fetal alcohol disorders), criminal justice expenses, lost productivity at work and motor vehicular crash costs; and,
- WHEREAS,** neuroscience tells us that the developing adolescent brain is far more sensitive to alcohol than the mature adult brain and underage alcohol can negatively impact student success and athletic performance; and:
- WHEREAS,** robust prevention efforts by collaborating agencies and organizations in North Carolina have helped to raise the average age at which young people begin to use alcohol, yet 27 percent of high school students still report drinking in the last 30 days and, of that number, 44 percent report binge drinking (i.e. excessive alcohol use) in the last 30 days; and,
- WHEREAS,** the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services operates three Alcohol and Drug Abuse Treatment Centers that serve adults in need of substance use disorder treatment and psychiatric stabilization; and,
- WHEREAS,** the State of North Carolina believes in the collective impact of parents, teachers, coaches, medical professionals, faith leaders, public and private organizations, and institutions to support early education about alcoholism and addiction, and to provide hope, help and healing for those in our community who are facing challenges with alcohol use and misuse.

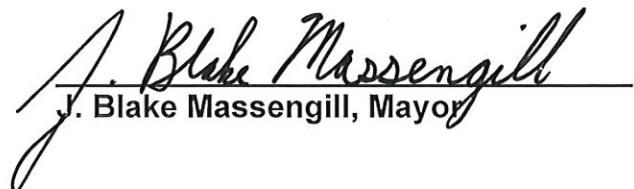
NOW THEREFORE, I J. BLAKE MASSENGILL, MAYOR of the Town of Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2022, as:

"ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH"

in the Town of Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina and commend its observance to all citizens.



FUQUAY-VARINA, NORTH CAROLINA


J. Blake Massengill, Mayor