



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Substance abuse and mental health issues affect thousands of Minnesotans; and
- WHEREAS: Mental illness takes a heavy toll on Minnesotans of all ages and their families. The Minnesota Department of Health reports that more than 600 people have died from suicide in Minnesota each year since 2010; and
- WHEREAS: The National Alliance on Mental Illness and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, estimate that as much as half the population with severe mental illness is also likely to have a substance abuse problem. Smoking prevalence is more than 36% in persons with mental illness, compared to roughly 21% in those without; and
- WHEREAS: The use and abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs has a significant and costly impact on the health, wellbeing, and safety of people in Minnesota. The Minnesota Department of Health estimates the cost of alcohol use alone at over \$5 billion a year; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota recognizes that the most effective and efficient way to prevent and treat substance abuse is through the collaboration of individuals, organizations, and communities; and
- WHEREAS: Prevention and early intervention are guiding principles of the comprehensive Minnesota State Substance Abuse Strategy, released in September 2012, by the Minnesota Departments of Education, Health, Human Services, Labor and Industry, Public Safety, and Corrections, and the State Judicial Board, Board of Pharmacy, and the Minnesota National Guard; and
- WHEREAS: National Prevention Week is an opportunity for individuals, organizations, and governmental agencies to promote prevention efforts, educate the public about behavioral health issues, and create and strengthen community partnerships.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim May 12 – 18, 2013, as:

PREVENTION WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 10th day of May.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Dayton", written over a horizontal line.

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Ritchie", written over a horizontal line.

SECRETARY OF STATE