



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: International Overdose Awareness Day is recognized globally on August 31 as an opportunity to remember those we have lost to overdose, support those left behind and take action to prevent further loss of life; and

Whereas: drug overdoses continue to impact families, neighborhoods and communities across Washington state - including right here in Bellevue - where fentanyl and other synthetic opioids have sharply increased the risk of unintentional overdose; and

Whereas: the stigma associated with substance use disorders prevents too many people from seeking the help they need, and perpetuates silence, isolation and shame among individuals, families and survivors; and

Whereas: harm reduction strategies - including access to naloxone, overdose education and supportive services - are critical tools in saving lives and providing pathways to treatment and recovery; and

Whereas: local organizations, first responders, healthcare workers and peer recovery specialists play a vital role in addressing the overdose crisis with compassion, urgency and care; and

Whereas: the City of Bellevue is committed to promoting public health, equity and the safety of all residents - especially our most vulnerable - and stands with communities working to prevent overdoses and support healing.

Now, therefore, I, Mo Malakoutian, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim **August 31, 2026 as:**

International Overdose Awareness Day

in Bellevue and encourage all residents to help raise awareness, reduce stigma and support evidence-based solutions that prevent overdose and save lives.

Mo Malakoutian, Mayor
City of Bellevue