

Whereas: International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event that is held on August 31 of each year to remember those gone too soon from overdose deaths; and

- *Whereas.* No community in Washington is immune to accidental or intentional overdose, and drug overdose deaths more than 1,100 in 2018 remain high across the state; and
- *Whereas:* In Bellevue the rise in overdose deaths has been steep, with 16 so far in 2021, compared to eight overdose deaths in 2018; and
- Whereas:Bellevue police officers began carrying the anti-overdose drug Narcan in
2019 to reverse overdoses from very potent opioids such as fentanyl; and
- *Whereas:* Addiction is a complex and treatable disease, and a life of recovery is possible; and
- *Whereas:* The City of Bellevue is committed to raising awareness of drug overdoses, and supports local, county and state efforts related to education, prevention, treatment and recovery support for substance abuse disorder.

Now, therefore, I, Lynne Robinson, mayor of Bellevue, Washington, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2021 as:

International Overdose Awareness Day

in Bellevue, encouraging residents to stand by the growing number of neighbors who have lost loved ones to an overdose and or are battling a substance use disorder themselves.

Lynne Robinson, Mayor City of Bellevue