



**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

ITEM NO. 5

**DATE OF MEETING:** September 6, 2011

**REQUESTED BY:** Elizabeth Pina, Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.

**SHORT TITLE:** Proclamation by the Pender County Board of Commissioners and Presentation to Members of Coastal Horizons Center, Inc.: Designate the Month of September as 2011 National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

**BACKGROUND:** The proclamation has been requested to be approved and presented by Ms. Pina in conjunction with Southeastern Mental Health Center.

A proclamation is provided for Board adoption and presentation to Ms. Pina.



***PENDER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS PROCLAMATION NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH 2011***

***WHEREAS***, behavioral health is an essential part of health and one's overall wellness, and prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can and do recover from substance use and mental disorders; and

***WHEREAS***, all people have the fundamental and inherent value to be accepted and treated with respect, human dignity, and worth; and

***WHEREAS***, individuals should have access to fully participate in community life including economic advancement and prosperity; fair and decent housing; quality education; positive opportunities to benefit from and contribute to material, cultural, and social progress; and

***WHEREAS***, it is critical to educate our policymakers, friends and family members, health care providers, and businesses that substance use and mental disorders are treatable, and that people should seek assistance for these conditions, with the same urgency as they would any other health condition; and

***WHEREAS***, all Americans have the opportunity to access provisions within the Affordable Care Act and Mental Health Parity and Addictions Equity Act (MHPAEA), aimed to improve physical and emotional health while ensuring people will receive the care they need at a more reasonable cost; and

***WHEREAS***, substance use and mental disorders are serious public health problems, and in 2009, 4.3 million people received treatment for a substance use disorder and 30.2 million people for a mental health problem (***2009 National Survey on Drug Use and Health***), we must continue to reach the millions more who need help; and

***WHEREAS***, to help more people achieve long-term recovery, and learn how recovery positively benefits the Nation's overall well-being, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), invite all residents of **Pender County, North Carolina** to participate in ***National Recovery Month: Prevention Works, Treatment is Effective, People Recover (Recovery Month)***;

***NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF PENDER COUNTY*** that the month of September, 2011 is officially designated as "***National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month***" in Pender County, and call upon the people of Pender County to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies supporting this year's theme, "***Join the Voices for Recovery: Recovery Benefits Everyone.***"

*This 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011.*

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George R. Brown, Chairman

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Rick Benton, Clerk to the Board