

RESOLUTION
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
MARIN COUNTY

PROCLAIMING
PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH
MARCH 2016

WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse is the Nation's fastest-growing drug problem, and Marin County is deeply impacted; and

WHEREAS, there are more overdose deaths from prescription pain killers and sedatives than from heroin and cocaine combined; and

WHEREAS, in Marin County since 2009, more people have died from accidental drug poisonings than from motor vehicle accidents; and

WHEREAS, the number of emergency room visits related to narcotics and the number of accidental drug overdoses has more than doubled over the past 10 years in Marin; and

WHEREAS, the epidemic has even spread to our children, where one in five of eleventh graders in Marin report having used prescription painkillers recreationally; and

WHEREAS, there are over 400,000 pain killers, sedatives and stimulants prescriptions per year in Marin County; and

WHEREAS, Marin County is proactively addressing this problem through RxSafe Marin, a community-wide coalition representing health care providers, law enforcement, educators, public health, community advocates, and concerned parents; and

WHEREAS, these combined efforts have led to a reduction in average narcotic prescription dose by 41 percent in the Marin County MediCal population in 2014; and

WHEREAS, the number of accidental drug overdoses in Marin County dropped 60% between 2013 and 2014; and

WHEREAS, RxSafe Marin is helping other jurisdictions struggling with this epidemic to replicate this successful model and received an Innovation Challenge Award from the California Department of Public Health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin hereby proclaims the month of March 2016 as "Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month" and encourages residents to join the community-wide response to this epidemic.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Marin held this 8th day of March 2016.

STEVE KINSEY – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 4 - PRESIDENT

KATIE RICE – SUPERVISOR, DISTRICT 2

