

# *City of San Pablo*

## *Proclamation Recognizing*

*April 2017*

*As*

## *Alcohol Awareness Month*

*WHEREAS, excessive drinking is responsible for more than 4,300 deaths among underage youth each year;*

*WHEREAS, alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States;*

*WHEREAS, nearly 10 million young people, ages 12 to 20, report that they have consumed alcohol in the past 30 days;*

*WHEREAS, young people who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21;*

*WHEREAS, drinking by persons under the age of 21 is illegal, yet people aged 12 to 20 drink 11% of all alcohol consumed in the United States;*

*WHEREAS, in the surrounding community, nearly one-half of 11<sup>th</sup> graders report having used alcohol;*

*WHEREAS, kids who drink are more likely to be victims of violent crime, to be involved in alcohol-related traffic crashes, and to have serious school-related problems;*

*WHEREAS, a supportive family environment is associated with lowered rates of alcohol use for adolescents; and*

*WHEREAS, kids who have conversations with their parents and learn a lot about the dangers of alcohol and drug use are 50% less likely to use alcohol and drugs than those who don't have such conversations.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cecilia Valdez, Mayor of the City of San Pablo, and on behalf of the City Council hereby join the West County Alcohol Marijuana and Prescription Drug Coalition in proclaiming that **April 2017 is Alcohol Awareness Month** in San Pablo, California, and call upon all citizens to encourage efforts that will provide early education about alcoholism and addiction, increase support for individuals and families coping with alcoholism and work to develop a safe and supportive environment for San Pablo community members in recovery. Through these efforts, together, we can provide **Hope, Help and Healing** for those in our community who are facing challenges and work to prevent future alcohol abuse.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this April 3, 2017.*

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*Cecilia Valdez, Mayor*