## REVISED STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 8 | **Name:** | Sam Porter |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2022-0273 | **Date:** | September 6, 2022 |

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

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| ***Proposed Substitute Motion 2022-0273.2 would create an annual behavioral health Recovery Champion Award, passed out of committee on September 6, 2022 with a “Do Pass” recommendation. The Motion was amended in committee with a friendly amendment to remove the phrase "behavioral health" from the title of the Proposed Motion. The title was amended to read: "A MOTION creating a recovery champion award to be presented annually in honor of National Recovery Month and in partnership with the King County Recovery Coalition."*** |

**SUBJECT**

A Motion to create an annual behavioral health Recovery Champion Award.

**SUMMARY**

Proposed Motion 2022-0273 would create an annual behavioral health Recovery Champion Award in partnership with the King County Recovery Coalition in honor of National Recovery Month.

**BACKGROUND**

According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), National Recovery Month began in 1989 as "a national observance held every September to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the nation’s strong and proud recovery community, and the dedication of service providers and communities who make recovery in all its forms possible."[[1]](#footnote-1)

According to the Recovery Research Institute, National Recovery Month began, "under the name of *Treatment Works! Month*, as a way to honor the hard work of addiction professionals. Then, in 1998, it was decided to rename the event National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month in an effort to honor not only the work of healthcare professions in the addiction field, but to also draw attention to the work of individuals suffering from substance use disorder."[[2]](#footnote-2) Every year, SAMHSA coordinates events across the country to recognize the many aspects of recovery. In 2022, the first event for Recovery Month is Overdose Awareness Day on August 31, followed by the Recovery Really Happens rally in Sacramento, California, and multiple panels and events including a bus tour on September 16.

The King County Recovery Coalition (KCRC) is a regional branch of the Washington Recovery Alliance. According to their website, the KCRC "advances substance use recovery and mental wellness by changing public understanding of behavioral health conditions and advocating for pro-recovery policies in King County."[[3]](#footnote-3) The KCRC observes Recovery Month annually in partnership with the Washington Recovery Alliance, regional coalitions across the state, and local community partners. The KCRC participated in Recovery Day at the Mariners[[4]](#footnote-4) on August 7, 2022, with approximately 2,500 people in attendance. The event included community organizations such as the Washington Recovery Helpline, Not One More, Oxford House, Interagency Queen Anne Recovery High School and Bridges Alternative Peer Group, the Recovery Café, Peer Seattle, Evergreen Treatment Services, The Sober Curator, and Crisis Connections.

**ANALYSIS**

Proposed Motion 2022-0273 would create an annual behavioral health Recovery Champion Award to recognize a resident of King County or an employee of King County government who has demonstrated hard work and passion in helping those with substance use disorders. The award would be given by the King County Council during National Recovery Month and presented in partnership with the King County Recovery Coalition (KCRC).

The proposed motion states that the annual nomination and selection of the Recovery Champion Award recipient would be conducted by the King County Council between May and July and presented in partnership with the KCRC between August and September in conjunction with National Recovery Month. The motion states that the award shall be memorialized by an appropriate medal reflecting the nature of the award.

Proposed Motion 2022-0273 has a blank for the name of the 2022 Recovery Champion Award recipient.

1. National Recovery Month 2022 | SAMHSA, <https://www.samhsa.gov/recovery-month> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Recovery Research Institute, What is National Recovery Month?, <https://www.recoveryanswers.org/blog/national-recovery-month/> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. King County Recovery Coalition, <https://kcrecovery.org/about/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Recovery Day at the Mariners | Seattle Mariners, <https://www.mlb.com/mariners/tickets/specials/washington-state-recovery> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)