PROCLAMATION

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. 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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor William Allison, proclaim September 2012 as a National Recovery Month: Prevention Works, Treatment is Effective, People Recover (Recovery month) invite all residents to join the City Council in supporting the National Recovery month theme "Join the Voices for Recovery: It's worth it."

The City of
MAPLE VALLEY

Signed this 4th day of September, 2012.

Christine Laue Jonas for

William "Bill" Allison, Mayor
City of Maple Valley, Washington