



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-31

National Drug Court Month

WHEREAS, treatment courts have been restoring lives and families for more than three decades and have served more than 1.5 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, there are now more than 4,000 treatment courts nationwide which are the cornerstone of justice reform sweeping the nation; and

WHEREAS, they are now recognized as the most successful justice system intervention in our nation's history and save an average of \$6,000 for every individual they serve; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts significantly improve substance use disorder treatment outcomes, substantially reduce addiction and related crime, and do so at less expense than any other criminal justice strategy; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts improve education, employment, housing and financial stability, promote family reunification, reduce foster care placements and increase the rate of addicted mothers delivering babies who are fully drug free; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts facilitate community-wide partnerships, bringing together child welfare, public safety and public health professionals; and

WHEREAS, treatment courts demonstrate that when one person rises out of substance use, we all rise.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2023 as **National Drug Court Month** in Charles County and call upon all residents to observe this day with appropriate programs and activities.

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

Reuben B. Collins, II, Esq., *President*

Ralph E. Patterson, II, M.A., *Vice President*
District 4

Gilbert O. Bowling, III
District 1

Thomasina O. Coates, M.S.
District 2

Amanda M. Stewart, M.Ed.
District 3



Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners