

September Declared ‘Recovery Month’

PIKEVILLE – September has been declared “Recovery Month” in Kentucky.

Governor Matt Bevin, in signing the proclamation Friday, said he wanted “to encourage more people to seek and embark on a path of recovery.”

Joining the governor at the East Kentucky Expo Center during the Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR) fifth annual summit, were U.S. Fifth District Congressman Harold “Hal” Rogers, Operation UNITE President & CEO Nancy Hale, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy Executive Director Van Ingram, and KY HELP Statewide Call Center Outreach Specialist Dakota Vance.

According to the 2017 Overdose Fatality Report released this summer by the Kentucky Justice & Public Safety Cabinet, 1,565 people died as a result of a drug overdose – an increase from 1,404 people in 2016.

“Educating Kentuckians about how substance use affects all people in a community, including public safety officials, the workforce, older adults and families, is essential to combating stereotypes and prejudices often associated with addiction,” Bevin said in the proclamation.

Bevin stated that the National Survey on Drug Use and Health stated that roughly 21 million Americans aged 12 and older needed treatment for substance abuse or dependence, and 6.6 percent of Kentuckians aged 18 or older had a substance use disorder.

“Substance use disorders are a treatable yet serious health problem, and our communities must encourage relatives and friends of people with substance use disorders to implement preventive measures, recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate treatment and recovery support services,” Bevin stated. “Recovery is possible through a variety of treatment resources and support problems, and thousands of Americans now live happy, healthy and productive lives in recovery.”

As part of this effort, Bevin created the “Don’t Let Them Die” campaign in mid-2017. In November 2017, the governor launched the KY HELP Statewide Treatment Call Center – 1-833-8KY-HELP (1-833-859-4357) – staffed by Operation UNITE.

“To be part of this campaign affirms our purpose and vision of being a collaborative model striving to prevent abuse of drugs and facilitate recovery,” Hale said. “As a result, UNITE believes we can create hope and change the culture across the commonwealth.”

Since taking its first call on December 1, 2017, the KY Help Statewide Call Center has responded to more than 2,400 calls. More than half of these callers have been entered treatment with the assistance of UNITE’s Call Center staff.

“The KY HELP Statewide Call Center provides resources for Kentuckians who are seeking help for a substance use disorder and offers support to the families of those individuals,” Hale said. “UNITE’s staff provides personalized attention and compassionate assistance to every caller.”

The KY HELP Statewide Call Center is available from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm (EDT) Monday through Friday. Messages left after business hours are returned the next business day.

For more information about Operation UNITE initiatives, please visit their website at www.operationunite.org.

Public Health Tobacco Program Launches Second Phase of Information Campaign

FRANKFORT, KY (Aug. 31, 2018) – Quitting tobacco isn’t easy – but Kentuckians don’t have to do it alone thanks to services like the state’s free tobacco quit line, 1-800-QUIT NOW.

That is the message behind the Department for Public Health’s (DPH) new public information campaign, which features broadcast, print, and digital advertisements, along with targeted outreach to medical providers and community engagement initiatives aimed at boosting public awareness of Quit Now Kentucky. In addition to the new advertisements, DPH also launched a new texting service in which users text QUITKY to 797979 to connect to the quit line easier and faster. The online option is www.quitnowkentucky.org.

“Everyone knows that giving up tobacco products is hard to do, but it is easier with counseling and assistance programs like Quit Now Kentucky,” said DPH Commissioner Dr. Jeffrey Howard, M.D. “Even if you have tried to quit before and didn’t succeed, this service can help you try again – and keep trying – until you are successful. Pick up the phone or text Quit Now Kentucky today to learn more about this service, which is free, confidential, and here to help you lead a healthier, longer life.”

Kentucky currently has the second highest rate of smoking in the country, with 24.6 percent of the Commonwealth’s residents reporting daily tobacco use. In fact, tobacco use and dependence is the leading preventable cause of death in Kentucky and the nation. DPH reports that more than 8,000 Kentuckians die each year because of tobacco-related diseases, such as lung cancer.

“Kentucky leads the nation in lung cancer deaths, and an overwhelming number of these deaths are linked to cigarette smoking,” continued Dr. Howard. “While that is a sobering and very sad statistic, it is one we can change by continuing to educate people about the dangers of cigarette smoking and helping more Kentuckians quit.”

The public information campaign, which was produced by Louisville-based advertising agency Red7e and can be viewed online, launches throughout the state during the week of Labor Day, and will be displayed on numerous network and cable television stations, in movie theaters, on the radio, and via various digital platforms, including social media and news websites. The ads also will run at various high school and collegiate sporting events around the Commonwealth.

With an emphasis on the health and lifestyle benefits of quitting tobacco, each ad seeks to engage the audience with a positive message about the quit line and the importance of having support throughout the quitting process.

In addition, physicians and healthcare professionals will receive marketing materials they can use to promote Quit Now Kentucky in patient waiting rooms and exam rooms to boost patient engagement and provider referrals to the service.

“We are extremely excited about the launch of the second phase of the campaign and to share our message about Quit Now Kentucky,” said Kerri Verden, who coordinates the Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program in DPH. “We hope Kentuckians will join us in this campaign to spread the word about the quit line and help more individuals give up smoking or tobacco products.”

GRAY HAWK LANDING CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY

Saturday, September 8

11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Free Hot Dogs,
Chips, & Drinks!



*Enter to win
one of 50*

\$10.00 gift certificates!

**WE WANT TO THANK
YOU FOR BEING A
VALUED CUSTOMER!**

FESTIVAL OF HOPE 2018

October 6, 2018

1:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Located at Gray Hawk Park

Schedule of Events:

- 1:00 Cruise-In Car Show
- 2:00 Welcome – Opening prayer by Rev. Carroll DeForest
- Presentation of Colors presented by JCHS JROTC
- National Anthem performed by JCHS JROTC
- 2:30 – 4:00 Team competitions led by Charlie Brown
- Hula Hoop Contest – Ages 1-14
- Wheel Barrow Race & Tug-of-War – Ages 15 and up
- Karaoke/Pantomime Contest (bring your own CD)
- Cake Walk, Kids pony & buggy rides and much more!
- 4:00 – 4:45 Annville Christian Academy Singing
- 4:45 Markey Cancer Center Presentation by Carla Repass
- 5:00 – 5:45 House of Refuge
- 6:00 – 6:30 Gray Hawk Boys
- 6:30 – 7:00 Mercy 3
- 7:00 – 7:45 New Junction
- 7:45 Survivor’s Celebration
- 8:00 – 10:00 Candle Light Ceremony
- Reading of Names
- Prayer
- Traditional Candle Walk
- Silent Auction – on site bids

Refreshments - JCCF Teams & Darrell Combs BBQ Sandwiches