

# WEAR PURPLE AUGUST 31ST FOR OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

Camden County Board of Commissioners • Employee Connections • Camden County Office of Mental Health and Addiction

**Please wear purple on August 31st in honor of Overdose Awareness Day to respect the power of the disease while remembering those we have lost**

**Send photos of your department wearing purple to [Patty.DiRenzo@camdencounty.com](mailto:Patty.DiRenzo@camdencounty.com) by 11am on 8/31**

**Hashtag [#OverdoseAwarenessDayCC](https://twitter.com/OverdoseAwarenessDayCC) when sharing photos on social media!**

International Overdose Awareness Day is a day where individuals, families, colleagues, and neighbors join worldwide to remember those who lost their lives due to an overdose. The Camden County Addiction Awareness Task Force asks for your support in wearing the color purple on August 31st to remember those we have lost. The Ben Franklin Bridge, Florio Center, and City Hall in Camden will also be colored in purple lighting.

According to the 2022 CDC's National Center for Health Statistics provisional data, there were 105,452 drug overdose deaths in the United States. This is a 2% decrease compared to the 107,622 demonstrated in 2021. NJ CARES 2022 data reported 2,892 suspected drug deaths were within New Jersey, almost a 7% decrease from 2021. However, 354 were within Camden County, nearly a 6% increase compared to 2021.

The disease of addiction is powerful; however, recovery is possible. We have much more work to do in making it better together. Please join us in honoring those we lost at the Remembrance and Hope Memorial Vigil on **Thursday, August 31, 2023, at 7:30pm, at Timber Creek Park, 236 Taylor Avenue & Chews Landing Road, Blackwood, NJ.**