## COUNTY OF TIOGA EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Drug overdoses are killing more Americans each year than car crashes, homicides, and falls with over 64,000 people dying from drug overdoses in 2016 alone; and

WHEREAS: Overdoses occur when too much of a substance or mixture of substances are ingested, smoked, absorbed, snorted, or injected into the body and the body is overwhelmed and unable to function properly; and

WHEREAS: All drugs whether they are legal or illegal can cause an overdose including opioids, depressants like barbiturates, benzodiazepines, or alcohol, and stimulants like cocaine, meth, caffeine, or ecstasy; and

WHEREAS: 66% of the overdoses that occurred in the United States in 2016 involved opioids like prescription opioids, heroin and fentanyl; and

WHEREAS: Opioid overdoses are reversible by using Naloxone to block the opioid receptors in the brain to allow respiration to continue in the body; and

WHEREAS: Naloxone was administered over 140 times from 2014 – 2017 in Tioga County by first responders and law enforcement allowing several individuals a second chance at life; and

WHEREAS: Agencies within Tioga County like Tioga County Public Health, Tioga County Mental Hygiene, CASA-Trinity Prevention, CASA-Trinity COTI, ACBC COTI, and several community partners offer services to those dealing with an addiction and continue to work together as the Tioga County Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition; and

WHEREAS: Individuals who know someone who is currently struggling with an opioid or other substance addiction are encouraged to learn about the resources available to them within Tioga County; therefore

The TIOGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, County of Tioga, does hereby proclaim August 30, 2018 as:

## **OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

and urges the citizens of our County to educate themselves on drug addiction, learn the signs of an overdose, and learn how to administer Naloxone.

ded: August 17, 2018

MARTHA SAUERBREY, CHAIR