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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Huntington and Charleston, WV:** September is National Recovery Month and Prestera Center is celebrating. Recovery Month serves to increase awareness and understanding of mental health and substance abuse issues and celebrates those in recovery. Addictions treatment and mental health services enable Americans to recover and enjoy a healthy and rewarding life. The message of Recovery Month is that behavioral health is essential to overall health, prevention works, treatment is effective, and people can, and do, recover. Now in its 26th year, Recovery Month highlights the achievements of individuals who have reclaimed their lives in long-term recovery. Prestera Center is proud to honor the treatment and recovery staff and other service providers, individuals and their families who make recovery possible.

In anticipation of Recovery Month, Prestera Center recognized International Overdose Awareness Day with a press conference that included a city-wide proclamation by Mayor Williams that August 31<sup>st</sup> is International Overdose Awareness Day in Huntington. Recognizing and knowing what to do if you encounter a drug overdose could save a life – call 911 right away to get help on the way.

Huntington Mayor Steve Williams will also issue a proclamation naming September as National Recovery Month at the City Council Meeting set for 9/14/2015. The City Council meetings are open to the public and start at 7:30 pm.

The community is invited to participate in Prestera Center's National Recovery Month "Recov-A-Thon" set for Saturday, September 26, 2015 from 12p-5pm at Barboursville Park, Shelter #6. There will be food, fun, fellowship, motivational recovery speakers, music and dancing (courtesy of ACME Sound). A Recov-A-Thon is a celebration of recovery in and with the community. Everyone is welcome. Prestera Center residential treatment programs are planning to host their own recovery month celebrations for current clients and for alumni, so contact the programs for more details.

Prestera Center is "*Leading The Way*" in behavioral health and addiction recovery services at fifty-five different locations across nine counties in West Virginia. Each year Prestera Center's 850 staff members provide high quality care to over twenty thousand adults, children and families, regardless of ability to pay. For more information on Prestera Center, visit online at [www.prestera.org](http://www.prestera.org), like us on Facebook or call toll free to (877) 399-7776.

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