Recovery Month 2011 Proclamation

WHEREAS, substance use disorders may include excessive, uncontrolled, or illicit use of prescription or non-prescription drugs, alcohol, substances like bath salts and certain psychotropic herbs, et cetera; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders are serious public health problems, affecting the lives of tens of millions of people of all ages and socio-economic situations across our Nation; and

WHEREAS, the disorder affects families, friends, employers, and communities, in addition the individuals who are directly involved; and

WHEREAS, the emotional, physiological, economic, and societal costs related to substance use disorders are substantial; and

WHEREAS, substance use disorders are preventable and treatable, and warrant pursuit of assistance, as for other health conditions; and

WHEREAS, it is important to educate policymakers, healthcare providers, employers, family members, the general public, and affected individuals that recovery is possible and help is available; and

WHEREAS, the pursuits of dignity, intellectual and economic advancement, fair and decent housing, and meaningful human connections are basic rights, including for those affected by substance use disorder; and

WHEREAS, Americans have the opportunity to access provisions within the Affordable Care Act and Mental Health Parity and Addictions Equity Act, to improve their physical and emotional health, while ensuring the care they need at a reasonable cost; and

WHEREAS, a recent study by the Washington State University Public Policy Center indicated that for every $1 spent on treatment in Idaho, criminal justice costs in the State were reduced by $1.38; and

WHEREAS, investment in treatment and social services in Idaho have been reduced; and

WHEREAS, other local, county, faith-based, non-profit, and private sector resources are necessary to meet needs for treatment, prevention, and enforcement associated with substance use disorders;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nancy Chaney, Mayor for the City of Moscow, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2011 as

Recovery Month

in the city of Moscow, and call upon all residents to join the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, local non-profits, treatment providers, and communities across the Nation in supporting this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Recovery Benefits Everyone."

DATED this 6th day of September, 2011

Nancy Chaney, Mayor