

EXECUTIVE ORDER 2018-01

Whereas, the disease of addiction has destroyed families and impacted businesses, communities and tribal nations across North Dakota; and,

Whereas, every aspect of government services provided by cabinet and other state agencies, including but not limited to corrections, probation, health, human services, primary, secondary and higher education, game and fish, and parks and recreation, sustain significant, yet often unmeasured economic costs related to undiagnosed and untreated substance abuse disorders; and,

Whereas, individuals with substance abuse disorders suffer from both the disease of addiction and a profound sense of shame resulting from the erroneous societal belief that addiction is a moral failing; and,

Whereas, this experience of shame and the stigma of addiction are impediments to treatment and recovery for individuals with the disease of addiction; and,

Whereas, addressing this shame and stigma is essential to sustained recovery from the disease of addiction; and,

Whereas, First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum has courageously dedicated significant time, energy and resources to share her personal experience overcoming the shame and stigma of addiction, to bring a new message of hope and encouragement for North Dakotans and their families still suffering from the disease of addiction; and,

Whereas, Governor Doug Burgum and First Lady Kathryn Helgaas Burgum are committed to reinventing recovery in North Dakota, through education about the chronic disease of addiction, advocating to eliminate outworn stereotypes including shame and stigma and by prioritizing resources and advancing policy; and,

Whereas, the foundation of reinvented recovery is focused on the continuum of care for the disease of addiction including prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery; and,

Whereas, Executive Branch agencies have responded through collaborative initiatives to support these efforts; and,

Whereas, the Governor is vested with executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution to convene groups dedicated to addressing issues of importance to the state.

Now therefore, Doug Burgum as Governor of the State of North Dakota hereby establishes the Office of Recovery Reinvented. The Office of Recovery Reinvented will promote strategic and innovative efforts to eliminate the shame and stigma associated with the disease of addiction. These efforts shall be guided by an advisory council of up to seven members, selected by the Governor. The advisory council shall be chaired by the First Lady and include individuals in recovery, behavioral health professionals and community and tribal leaders.

- 1. The advisory council of the Office of Recovery Reinvented shall meet at the call of the Chair.
- 2. Executive Branch agencies may provide assistance and support to the Office of Recovery Reinvented, as appropriate and requested.
- 3. The Office of Recovery Reinvented may create subgroups for purposes of seeking expertise and input on addiction, recovery and treatment issues.

The Governor is vested with executive authority pursuant to Article V, Section 1 of the North Dakota Constitution. This order is effective immediately, and it shall remain in effect until further notice.

Executed this 2th day of January 2018.

Doug Burgum Governor

Attest:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State