

For Immediate Release

Contact Info: Kelly Pomerville, Director of Marketing and Public Relations
941-639-8300 Ext. 2275

Charlotte Behavioral Health Care Hosts Recovery Candlelight Vigil to Raise Awareness of Mental and Substance Use Disorder Support Services in Charlotte County

Punta Gorda, FL (September 6, 2018) - Mental and/or substance use disorders are a critical challenge that Charlotte County must address immediately. To draw attention to the issue, Charlotte Behavioral Health Care (CBHC) will host a Recovery Vigil to raise awareness for people in need of treatment and recovery support services.

The Vigil will take place on Friday, September 28th, 2018, kicking off at 7:00 p.m. in Laishley Park, 100 Nesbit Street, Punta Gorda. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs. This is a kid-friendly and pet-friendly event.

There will be a presentation featuring community members sharing their personal stories of recovery, and booths staffed by our community's providers of mental and substance use disorder support services.

The first 100 attendees will receive a "Voices of Recovery" t-shirt. In addition, recovery honor beads are available free of charge, attendees may paint #RockingPuntaGorda recovery rocks (all supplies provided), and live music will be provided by Tiki Tom and L.A. Daniels. There will be a raffle, and the event will end with a candlelight vigil set to bagpipes and a moment of silence in honor of those struggling with this disease and in memory of those no longer with us.

"The personal stories shared at the vigil are a powerful testaments to the successes achieved through recovery," said Kelly Pomerville, director of marketing and pr at CBHC. "We all have the potential to make a difference and be visible, vocal, and valuable to help spread the message that recovery is possible."

The Recovery Candlelight Vigil in Charlotte County highlights the benefits of substance abuse treatments and the contributions of treatment providers. It also promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse in all its forms is possible and that addiction is a treatable disease.

"We hope that our candlelight vigil will create awareness of this problem by shining light onto something often kept hidden," said Pomerville. "The vigil allows us to reflect on what addiction and recovery are about and to be inspired to rise to the challenge to help combat drug and alcohol issues. Hand in hand, one life at a time, we can all make a difference through our lives, in the lives of loved ones, and in the community. Your presence at the vigil sends a message that recovery is possible."

For more information or to reserve a provider table, please contact Pomerville at kpomerville@cbhcf.org or 941.639.8300 ext. 2275.

###