



### **For Immediate Release**

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### ***Candlelight Recovery Vigil Held on September 16<sup>th</sup> at Lashley Park***

**PUNTA GORDA, Fla. (September 4, 2022)** – Substance use disorders and overdoses are a critical challenge that Charlotte County must address immediately. To draw attention to the issue, Charlotte Behavioral Health Care (CBHC) will lead a Recovery Vigil to raise awareness for people in need of treatment and recovery support services.

Please join us at our Candlelight Vigil on September 16<sup>th</sup> kicking off at 7:00 at Lashley Park, 100 Nesbit Street, Punta Gorda, FL 33950. There will be a short presentation where community members share their inspiring stories of recovery, along with honor beads, a bubble release, rock painting, a basket raffle, and candles for the vigil. There will also be numerous community partner information tables. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

The event will feature a lot of free items: Free t-shirts to the first 100 walkers. Free refreshments and snacks. Free mental health screenings, and free Narcan.

“This event emphasizes that individuals in recovery and their support systems can be change agents in our community,” states Kelly Pomerville, director of marketing and public relations at CBHC. “Recovery is for everyone - every person, every family, every community.”

**National Recovery Month** highlights individuals who have reclaimed their lives and are living happy and healthy lives in long-term recovery and also honors the prevention, treatment, and recovery service providers who make recovery possible. CBHC’s annual recovery vigil promotes the message that recovery in all its forms is possible, and also encourages citizens to take action to help expand and improve the availability of effective prevention, treatment, and recovery services for those in need. There are millions of Americans whose lives have been transformed through recovery. These successes often go unnoticed by the broader population; therefore, **Recovery Month** provides a vehicle to celebrate these accomplishments.

“It is important that the momentum we establish at this event is carried over to tomorrow, and the next day, week, and year,” said Pomerville. “We all have the potential to make a difference and be visible, vocal and valuable to help spread the message that recovery is possible.”

For more information, contact Pomerville at 941.639.8300 ext. 2275.

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