

# TOWN OF PORTSMOUTH, RI

## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Project Purple, an initiative of The Herren Project, a 501(c) 3 Non-profit foundation established by former NBA basketball player, Chris Herren, assists individuals and families struggling with addiction. Project Purple was launched to break the stigma of addiction, bring awareness to the dangers of substance abuse and shed light on effective practices, and

WHEREAS: The Project Purple concept was developed when Chris spoke at a local high school in 2011 in front of students wearing Purple shirts. After sharing his story, a young woman raised her hand and stood up to speak.

As snickering and laughter was heard, the student said “Thank you Mr. Herren for validating what we do. We are the sober students of this high school and each year we take a pledge to not use drugs or alcohol.”

Mr. Herren was surprised by the courage it took to not only stand up and share the symbolism of the purple shirts, but he was inspired to make a difference among adolescents across the United States.

NOW THEREFORE I, Kevin M. Aguiar, President of the Portsmouth Town Council, do hereby proclaim January 21st through February 1, 2019 as

## PROJECT PURPLE 2019

in the Town of Portsmouth and I urge all citizens to celebrate and support the special events planned by both the Portsmouth Schools and other community organizations; Portsmouth businesses along with the Portsmouth Fire and Police Departments, displaying Project Purple banners.

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Kevin M. Aguiar, President,  
Portsmouth Town Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer M. West, Town Clerk