

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS; September is known globally as “Suicide Prevention Month”, the National Suicide Prevention + Action Month Proclamation was created to raise the visibility of the mental health resources and suicide prevention services available in our community; and

WHEREAS; the goal is to start the conversation about mental health and the impact of suicide to help destigmatize the conversation and help connect people with the appropriate support services; and

WHEREAS; According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults, and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 in the United States; and

WHEREAS; more than 48,000 people died by suicide across the United States in 2018, with an average of 132 suicides completed daily; and

WHEREAS; each and every suicide directly impacts a minimum of 100 additional people, including family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and community members; and

WHEREAS; the City of Olympia publicly places its full support behind those who work in the fields of mental health, education and public safety; and

WHEREAS; global organizations like Hope For The Day and local mental health partners, serve on the front lines of a war that many still refuse to discuss, as stigma regarding suicide and mental health issues is far too prevalent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Olympia City Council, does hereby proclaim September 2021, as

SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

in the City of Olympia and encourages all community members to take the time to understand the importance of mental health education and recognize that taking care of ourselves and others includes taking care of mental health.

SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 14th DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2021.

OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL

Cheryl Selby, Mayor