

**P R O C L A M A T I O N**

*WHEREAS, suicide is the now the third leading cause of deaths in Washington State, and the third leading cause of death among people from the ages of 15 to 24 in Washington State; and*

*WHEREAS, forty-four people completed suicide in Thurston County in 2012; and*

*WHEREAS, in the United States, one person completes suicide every 14 minutes; and*

*WHEREAS, the City of Olympia is committed to protecting all members of its community; and*

*WHEREAS, county wide suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible; and*

*WHEREAS, strategies need to be developed and implemented to reduce the stigma associated with being a consumer of mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services; and*

*WHEREAS, 50% of people who die by suicide use a firearm, and guns stored in the house are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-protection; and*

*WHEREAS, a great many suicides are preventable;*

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Olympia City Council does hereby proclaim September 9, 2014 as*

***“SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS DAY”***

*and call upon the people of the City of Olympia to learn the warning signs of suicide, increase public awareness that suicide is a preventable health problem, and help support those in the community whose lives have been touched by suicide.*

***SIGNED IN THE CITY OF OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON THIS 9<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2014.***

***OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL***

***Stephen H. Buxbaum  
Mayor***

