

IN RECOGNITION OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2024

- WHEREAS,** THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER IS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH. MORE THAN 50,000 AMERICANS DIED BY SUICIDE IN 2023. IN FLORIDA, A PERSON DIES BY SUICIDE EVERY TWO HOURS ON AVERAGE. SUICIDES IN FLORIDA FAR OUTNUMBER HOMICIDES; AND
- WHEREAS,** SUICIDE IS A NATIONAL EPIDEMIC COSTING THE LIVES OF 6,000 VETERANS EACH YEAR AND IS A LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR FIRST RESPONDERS. FIREARMS ARE THE LEADING METHOD OF SUICIDE IN FLORIDA AND THE MOST LETHAL METHOD. ACCESS TO A GUN TRIPLES THE RISK OF DEATH; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS, THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, AND THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRY HAVE DECLARED A NATIONAL EMERGENCY IN CHILD MENTAL HEALTH. SUICIDE WAS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG INDIVIDUALS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10-24; AND
- WHEREAS,** IT IS CRITICAL TO RECOGNIZE THE SIGNS OF DEPRESSION THAT MAY LEAD TO THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE INCLUDING: SPEAKING ABOUT WANTING TO DIE, FEELINGS OF ISOLATION OR HOPELESSNESS, INCREASED USE OF DRUGS OR ALCOHOL, AND SEVERE MOOD SWINGS; AND
- WHEREAS,** IT IS ESSENTIAL TO RECOGNIZE THE BEST METHODS TO PREVENT SUICIDE WHEN A PERSON IS IN CRISIS: ASK IF THE PERSON IS THINKING OF TAKING THEIR LIFE; KEEP THEM SAFE AND REMOVE THEIR ACCESS TO LETHAL MEANS SUCH AS POISONS, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, AND FIREARMS; GET THEM PROFESSIONAL HELP IN FLORIDA BY DIALING 988 OR CALLING THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE AT 1-800-273-8255, OR VIA TEXT AT 741741. IN ADDITION, THE FLORIDA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS HAS PROVIDED SIGNIFICANT LEADERSHIP IN SUICIDE PREVENTION THROUGH COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND PROGRAMMING; AND
- WHEREAS,** THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA IS FIRMLY COMMITTED TO RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT SUICIDE PREVENTION IN OUR COMMUNITY AND SUPPORTS THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF BROWARD COUNTY'S GUN SAFETY COMMITTEE, AND THEIR *LOCK IT UP!* - GUN SAFETY PROGRAM, BY ENCOURAGING SAFE STORAGE OF FIREARMS AND REMOVAL OF OTHER LETHAL MEANS IN ORDER TO PREVENT SUICIDE; NOW
- THEREFORE,** JOSH LEVY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, AND THE HOLLYWOOD CITY COMMISSION, HEREBY PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER 2024 AS:

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

IN THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA.

SIGNED THIS 4TH DAY OF
SEPTEMBER 2024 AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

MAYOR JOSH LEVY
VICE MAYOR LINDA HILL ANDERSON
COMMISSIONER CARYL S. SHUHAM
COMMISSIONER TRACI L. CALLARI
COMMISSIONER ADAM GRUBER
COMMISSIONER KEVIN D. BIEDERMAN
COMMISSIONER IDELMA QUINTANA