

IN RECOGNITION OF SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2023

- WHEREAS,** THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER IS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH. MORE THAN 45,000 AMERICANS DIE BY SUICIDE EACH YEAR. 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 IS THE SECOND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH FOR CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS, AND YOUNG ADULTS AGE 10 TO 24 YEARS; 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 CRITICAL 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, DIAL 988 OR CALL THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE 1- 800-273-8255 OR TEXT 741741; 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 2023 AS:

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

IN THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

SIGNED THIS 30TH DAY OF
AUGUST 2023 AT
HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA

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