

City of Eureka

Proclamation



In recognition of

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

September 10-16, 2023

- Whereas,* suicide is a national and statewide public health problem, and suicide prevention is a national and statewide responsibility; *and*
- Whereas,* suicide is the 11th leading cause of death in the United States, the 2nd leading cause of death among children ages 10-14, the 3rd leading cause of death among ages 15-24, the 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 25-34; *and*
- Whereas,* it is estimated that in 2021, there were 1.7 suicide attempts, over 48,000 people died by suicide in the US with 4,144 of those deaths occurring in California (CDC); *and*
- Whereas,* over 90% of the people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition, although often that condition was not recognized or treated; *and*
- Whereas,* organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, through research, education, advocacy, and resources for those who have lost someone to suicide or who struggle, and urge that we:

1. Recognize suicide as a preventable national and state public health problem and declare suicide prevention to be a priority.
2. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities.
3. Address the disparity in access to mental healthcare for underserved and underrepresented groups, and advocate for ending these disparities.
4. Fund new suicide research to support culturally-informed and evidence-based mental health care and services.
5. Encourage initiatives in Eureka based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and the 2023 California Suicide Prevention Plan.
6. Promote awareness that there is no single cause for suicide, and that suicide most often occurs when stressors exceed the coping abilities of someone struggling with a mental health condition.
7. Develop and implement strategies to improve and increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services and programs.
8. Continue advocacy to ensure we can reimagine a comprehensive suicide, mental health, and substance use crisis response system that builds on the historic new 988 number for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

Now, therefore, I, Mayor Kim Bergel, on behalf of the Eureka City Council, do hereby proclaim September 10-16, 2023 as Suicide Prevention Week and recognize September 10th as World Suicide Prevention Day.

Kim Bergel
Mayor
September 5, 2023