

STATE OF OHIO
Executive Department

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Columbus

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, suicide is a serious but preventable public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, nationally, suicide is the tenth leading causes of death overall and the second leading cause of death among Americans aged 10 to 34; and

WHEREAS, each year, Ohio loses between 1,200 and 1,500 of our citizens due to death by suicide; and

WHEREAS, the best way to minimize risk of suicide is to learn about risk factors, recognize warning signs and take them seriously, and know how to respond to possibly save a life; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) is proud to partner with organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness - Ohio Chapter (NAMI Ohio) and the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF) to collaborate with other state and local agencies, organizations and individuals to save lives; and

WHEREAS, local suicide prevention coalitions have been formed in many counties, and a number of initiatives are currently underway to raise awareness, eliminate stigma, promote suicide prevention as a public health issue and increase help-seeking behavior; and

WHEREAS, effective prevention strategies are needed to promote awareness of suicide while also promoting prevention, resilience, and a commitment to social change; and

WHEREAS, OhioMHAS, NAMI Ohio and OSPF invite all residents of Ohio to become educated about suicide and participate in National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month; and

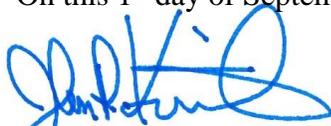
WHEREAS, every Ohioan can play a role in bringing mental illness out of the shadows, and every Ohioan deserves a chance to succeed and has a right to achieve his or her God-given purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, John R. Kasich and Mary Taylor, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 2016 as

**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION
AWARENESS MONTH**

throughout Ohio and call upon the citizens of this great state to observe this month with appropriate programs, activities and ceremonies, and to take the NAMI Stigma-free Pledge to take action, know the signs, reach out and know that there is help and hope.

On this 1st day of September 2016;



John R. Kasich
Governor



Mary Taylor
Lieutenant Governor

