



In the Name and by the Authority of

THE STATE OF OHIO



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

WHEREAS, suicide was the 14th leading cause of death in Ohio in 2020, but was the second leading cause of death among Ohioans 10-14 years of age, the third leading cause of death among Ohioans 15-34 years of age, and the fourth leading cause of death among Ohioans 35-44 years of age; and

WHEREAS, on average four Ohioans die by suicide per day, resulting in 1,642 suicides in 2020, according to mortality data from the Ohio Department of Health's Bureau of Vital Statistics; 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 these risks to possibly save a life; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) are proud to partner with organizations like RecoveryOhio, the National Alliance on Mental Illness – Ohio Chapter (NAMI Ohio), the Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF), and Mental Health America of Ohio (MHA of Ohio) 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 Ohio counties, and a number of initiatives are currently under way to raise awareness, eliminate stigma, promote suicide prevention as a public health issue and increasing help-seeking behavior; and

WHEREAS, OhioMHAS, ODH, RecoveryOhio, NAMI Ohio, OSPF, and MHA of Ohio 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, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby officially recognize September 2022 as

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

on this 1st day of September 2022.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor