

STATE OF KANSAS



PROCLAMATION
BY THE
GOVERNOR

TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS Suicide Prevention in Kansas is about hope, resilience and recovery; and

WHEREAS, September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day and September 5-11th is National Suicide Prevention Week; and

WHEREAS, these observances are united in raising awareness that prevention is possible, treatment is effective, and people do recover; and

WHEREAS, Kansas residents should have access to high quality prevention, support, rehabilitation, and treatment services that lead to recovery; and

WHEREAS, in Kansas, suicide has consistently been in the top 10 leading causes of death among all ages and the 2nd leading cause of death for those age 10-44 years; and

WHEREAS, The COVID-19 Public Health Emergency posed unique challenges to the mental well-being of all Kansans but especially youth which resulted in a 68% increase in Emergency Department visits for suspected suicide attempts in youth; and

WHEREAS, On July 16, 2022, the U.S., including Kansas, successfully transitioned to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline (formerly known as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline) – the easy-to-remember number to reach trained crisis counselors for help with suicide, mental health and substance use-related crises; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Suicide Prevention Coalition, launched September 2021, has created a mechanism for approaching suicide prevention with a unified vision and voice with over 70 members representing suicide prevention coalitions, healthcare and behavioral health care providers, educators, researchers, people with lived experience of suicide attempts and loss and public agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Prevention Subcommittee of the Governor's Behavioral Health Services Planning Council is dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts, deaths and the related pain for those affected by suicide deaths through research projects, educational programs, and best practices to support awareness, prevention, and postvention;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Laura Kelly, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim September 2022 as

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

in the state of Kansas and I urge all citizens to join in this observation.



DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of
the State this 1st day of
September, A.D. 2022

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Laura Kelly
Scott Schwab
Secretary of State
Jennifer Cook
Assistant Secretary of State