



The Office of the Mayor

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** people with mental illnesses, addiction struggles, or thoughts of suicide can recover if given the necessary services and support in their communities; and,
- WHEREAS,** research shows that promoting connectedness - between people and within communities - creates a sense of belonging, which can be a protective factor against suicide and addiction; and,
- WHEREAS,** people with these struggles make important contributions to our families and our communities and have many life experiences to offer so that others can find success in recovery; and,
- WHEREAS,** greater public awareness about mental illnesses can change negative attitudes and behaviors; and,
- WHEREAS,** we believe that connection is the cure and know that encouraging those connections takes work and partnership in the community; and,
- WHEREAS,** working with our community partners to introduce and connect people with the mental health, addiction recovery and suicide prevention resources that are available throughout the Treasure Valley is critical to the well-being of our families, communities, schools, and businesses.
- THEREFORE,** I, Mayor Robert E. Simison, hereby proclaim January 2022 as

Mental Wellness, Suicide Awareness and Addiction Recovery Month

in the City of Meridian and encourage the residents of our community to recommit to increasing awareness and understanding of mental illnesses, reducing stigma and discrimination, and promoting appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental illnesses.

Dated this 10th day of January, 2023

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert E. Simison", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert E. Simison, Mayor



Brad Hoaglund, City Council President
Joe Borton, City Council Vice-President
Luke Cavener, City Council
Jessica Perrault, City Council
Liz Strader, City Council
John Overton, City Council