

A PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF
NORMAN, OKLAHOMA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH
OF SEPTEMBER 2023, AS SUICIDE PREVENTION AND
RECOVERY MONTH IN THE CITY OF NORMAN.

- § 1. WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone’s overall health and well-being; and
- § 2. WHEREAS, 4.1% of adults in Oklahoma had serious thoughts of suicide in the past year, with one in 10 students reporting attempted suicide in the past 12 months; and
- § 3. WHEREAS, nearly 300,000 Oklahomans report having a substance use disorder; and
- § 4. WHEREAS, substance use disorder is not a moral issue but rather a chronic, treatable disease that individuals can recover from and go on to live healthy lives; and
- § 5. WHEREAS, early identification and treatment can make a profound difference in the successful management of mental illness, suicide prevention and recovery from substance use disorder; and
- § 6. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services believes that all Oklahomans deserve to have mental health and addiction services within reach without fear of judgment or shame through the evidence-based Crisis Response Continuum, which meets people where they are and when they need it most; and
- § 7. WHEREAS, less than 1% of the 872 Oklahomans that died by suicide in 2022 were seen at a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic, proving that connecting to evidenced-based treatment services work; and
- § 8. WHEREAS, recovery-oriented care and recovery support systems help people with mental and substance use disorders manage their conditions successfully; and
- § 9. WHEREAS, ODMHSAS has provided more than 80,000 Naloxone (NARCAN) kits to Oklahomans to prevent fatal overdoses resulting from opioid use, including Fentanyl, since January 2023; and
- § 10. WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services believes we should work together as a community toward zero suicides in the state of Oklahoma; and
- § 11. WHEREAS, the 988 Mental Health Lifeline supports Oklahomans experiencing a mental health crisis, struggling with substance use or having thoughts of suicide through trained mental health professionals via text or call, mobile crisis teams, urgent care and crisis centers and follow-up appointments.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

- § 12. Do hereby proclaim the month of September 2023, as Suicide Prevention and Recovery Month in the City of Norman.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of September, 2023.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

