



PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, September is recognized as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. Suicide is the eighth leading cause of death in our state and the second leading cause of death for those ages 10 to 40; and

WHEREAS, suicide is a public health crisis affecting people of all ages across all socioeconomic, racial, and ethnic backgrounds. According to the CDC, the rate is 1.5 times higher for Veterans than for non-Veteran adults over the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, each and every suicide directly impacts a minimum of 100 additional people, including family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, service and community members and social media connections; and

WHEREAS, public awareness of the warning signs and support networks, including the three-digit 988 number for the National Suicide and Crisis Lifeline available to everyone through call, chat, or text to a trained counselor who will listen, offer support, and provide community resources 24 hours a day, seven days a week, is essential to continue lowering the rates of suicide; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina encourages people to recognize that there is no single cause of suicide and no single suicide prevention program or effort that will appropriate for all populations and communities; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all residents to take the time to check in with their family, friends, and neighbors on a regular basis and communicate their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate. A simple phone call, message, handshake, or hug can go a long way towards helping someone realize that suicide is not the answer.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amelia Stinson-Wesley, Mayor of the Town of Pineville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 2026, as "**NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**" in North Carolina and commend its observance to all residents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the Town of Pineville, this 8th day of September 2026.

Mayor Amelia Stinson-Wesley