



PROCLAMATION NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH – SEPTEMBER 2022

WHEREAS, September is known as National Suicide Prevention Month and is intended to help raise awareness surrounding suicide prevention resources available in the community; and

WHEREAS, World Suicide Prevention Day is observed each year on September 10; and

WHEREAS, suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, each year more than 45,979 people died by suicide in the United States in 2020 – one death 11 minutes; and

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, 12.2 million adults across the U.S. seriously thought about suicide; 3.2 million adults made a suicide plan; 1.2 million adults attempted suicide; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2020 Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission Annual Report, 1,389 people in the state died by suicide during the COVID-19 pandemic, with 1,099 of those deaths relating to men; and

WHEREAS; every year, thousands of individuals die by suicide, leaving behind friends and family members to navigate the tragedy of loss. Often feelings of shame and stigma prevent them from talking openly; and

WHEREAS; 988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and is now active across the United States; and

WHEREAS; the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention is using #BeThere to educate social media followers about the many actions one can take to support a person who is struggling; and

WHEREAS; Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) has been an active and engaged member of the Oakland County Suicide Prevention Task Force since 2011; and

WHEREAS; OCHN is committed to being a Zero Suicide organization and cultivating a network of providers who are engaged in the Zero Suicide philosophy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that, White Lake Township hereby recognizes September 2022, as National Suicide Prevention Month. White Lake calls upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, and schools to recommit our state to increasing awareness and understanding of suicide prevention, and the need for appropriate and accessible services to assist individuals in crisis.

Rik Kowall, Township Supervisor

September 13, 2022