

Proclamation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Suicide Prevention Month – September 2023

WHEREAS, September is known as **Suicide Prevention Month**, a time in which mental health advocates, individuals, prevention organizations, survivors, allies and communities around the country unite to promote suicide prevention awareness; and

WHEREAS, the Napa County Suicide Prevention Council (NCSPC) is a public/private collaborative of people and organizations dedicated to reducing stigma surrounding suicide. The Council supports those who have lost loved ones to suicide, identifies and advocates for resources and promotes a safe, connected, and resilient community dedicated to reducing the risk of suicide; and

WHEREAS, over the last six years, NCSPC has worked tirelessly to reach their vision of a suicide-free community through education and training, stigma reduction, linkage to services, and provision of resources to combat suicide; and

WHEREAS, from 2019-2021, the suicide rate in California was 10.7 deaths per 100,000 population and Napa County's was 13.4 deaths per 100,000 population, placing Napa County at higher rate than the state average; and

WHEREAS, across Napa County and the state, the age group with the highest suicide rate was 85 years and older. The race with the highest suicides was White and second highest was American Indian/Alaskan Native; and

WHEREAS, it is important to understand the harsh reality that exists surrounding this crisis. In FY 22-23, law enforcement responded to over 289 calls related to suicide, and 14 individuals completed suicide in Napa County; and

WHEREAS, in FY 22-23, the NCSP trained 941 community members in the Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) model of suicide prevention to help prevent suicides; and

WHEREAS, every Napa County resident can be an ally by knowing the signs of suicide, finding the words to communicate with someone they are concerned about, and reaching out to local resources for help.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Napa, State of California, on this 12th day of September 2023, does hereby recognize **September 2023 as Suicide Prevention Month** in Napa County, and in doing so, we urge all members of the Napa County community to play a role in suicide prevention and promote mental health and wellness as we strive towards reducing suicides.

Belia Ramos

Belia Ramos, Chair

Ryan Gregory

Ryan Gregory, District 2

Joelle Gallagher

Joelle Gallagher, Vice Chair

Anne Cottrell

Anne Cottrell, District 3

Alfredo Pedroza, District 4

