

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, this proclamation recognizes suicide as a community-wide problem and suicide prevention as requiring a community effort; and

WHEREAS, Montana's suicide rate is the 3rd highest in the nation and has ranked among the top five states with the highest rates of suicide for the past four decades; and

WHEREAS, since 2017 Missoula County has suffered 120 suicides; and

WHEREAS, suicide by firearm accounts for 51% of all suicides in the US and 68% of all suicides in Montana and guns stored in the home are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-defense; and

WHEREAS, it is important to support our new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline Call Center here in Missoula, along with our new mobile response units who can effectively and empathetically intervene in crisis situations; and

WHEREAS, our community will support suicide prevention efforts to the maximum extent possible, with initiatives like Project Tomorrow Montana which works to reduce Missoula County suicide deaths and attempts through educational programs and evidence-based policy.

NOW THEREFORE, in coordination with National Suicide Prevention Week, I, John Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, do hereby recognize the week of September 7-14, 2021 as;

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 16th day of August, in the year two thousand twenty-one.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Engen".

John Engen,
Mayor