



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: September 10, 2019

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____



4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Sonoma, State of
California, Proclaiming the Week of September 8 through September 14, 2019
as Suicide Prevention Week in Sonoma County**

Whereas, suicide is a major public health issue that requires vigilant attention and preventative action;

Whereas, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report in November 2018 stating that suicide rates rose across the United States from 1999 to 2017 by 33%, from 10.5 to 14.0 per 100,000 people per year;

Whereas, on average there are 75 deaths by suicide each year in Sonoma County, making suicide the 9th leading cause of death in the County;

Whereas, the Sonoma County age-adjusted suicide death rate was 12.4 per 100,000 people per year, statistically higher than the California rate of 10.4 per 100,000 people per year, according to the California Department of Public Health "County Health Status Profiles 2019" report;

Whereas, each death by suicide directly impacts numerous family members, friends, loved ones, and by extension the entire community;

Whereas, the Sonoma County Department of Health Services is committed to raising awareness, providing education and training on suicide prevention, and reducing stigma;

Whereas, the County of Sonoma is committed to ensuring that those in need have access to services by healthcare providers trained in best practices to reduce suicide risk, and to reducing the stigma associated with using behavioral health treatment or losing a loved one to suicide;

Whereas, since 2013 the National Suicide Prevention Hotline received over 25,000 calls from Sonoma County residents, and these calls are answered by the local North Bay Suicide Prevention Hotline program;

Whereas, no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient or appropriate for all populations or communities; all are asked to join together and take a stand to help those who are contemplating suicide; and

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Whereas, each September Suicide Prevention Week is recognized across the United States and provides the opportunity to educate oneself about warning signs and how best to help those most in need.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors proclaims the week of September 8 through September 14, 2019 as Suicide Prevention Week in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Gorin:

Zane:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.