



VILLAGE OF BOYS TOWN

Proclamation

WHEREAS, suicide is a serious public health concern affecting youth and adults across our nation, with devastating consequences for individuals, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, mental health is equally as vital as physical health, and untreated mental health conditions contribute to a less healthy society and increased suicide rates; and

WHEREAS, the mental health crisis among youth has been intensified by factors such as social media, isolation and lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, suicide affects people of all ages, genders, races, orientations, income levels, religions, and background; no one is immune, and its impact is felt across entire communities; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 11 minutes, resulting in more than 49,000 suicides each year; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the eleventh leading cause of death for all ages, the second leading cause of death for individuals aged 10-34, and the third leading cause for those age 15-19; and

WHEREAS, many people with mental health issues may often feel isolated and unsure where to turn for help; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness about mental health and expanding outreach efforts are critical to reducing stigma, encouraging early intervention, and connecting individuals and families with the resources they need; and

WHEREAS, Boys Town offers an accessible and comprehensive system of mental health care for children and families, promoting mental health awareness, prevention, and treatment from Boys Town Hospital pediatricians; child and adolescent psychiatrists; psychologists and therapists; and, the Boys Town National Hotline; Nebraska Family Helpline; the 988 crisis line; and other community-based services.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE PROCLAIMED by Erik Biggs of the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, that September is

"SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH"

In the Village of Boys Town, Nebraska, we support a holistic approach to well-being and self-care for our staff, children and families. We recognize that suicide is an issue that impacts an entire community and can be prevented if we support one another; seek help when needed; continue to promote mental health awareness and provide access to high quality mental health services. We believe that suicide is preventable, and we all have a role to play in saving lives.

Duly adopted this 2nd day of September 2025.


Erik Biggs, Village of Boys Town