

Office of the Mayor
Fairbanks North Star Borough
Alaska
Proclamation

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15-34; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, over 47,000 people die by suicide each year; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the only leading cause of death in the United States that has increased every year for the past decade; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that in 2017 (the last year national data was available), there were over 1.4 million suicide attempts; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, suicide was the 5th leading cause of death in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, 200 people died by suicide in Alaska; and

WHEREAS, over 90% of the people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition, although often that condition is not recognized or treated; and

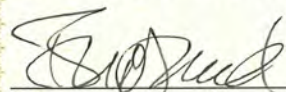
WHEREAS, organizations such as The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention envision a world without suicide, and dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, through research, education, advocacy and resources for those who have lost or struggle, and urge that we:

- 1. Recognize suicide as a preventable national and state public health problem and declare suicide prevention a priority.*
- 2. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities.*
- 3. Encourage initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and Alaska Statewide Suicide Prevention Council.*
- 4. Help is available to Alaskans struggling to cope, considering or grieving the loss of someone to suicide by calling Alaska's Care Line, 1-877-266-4357 (IHELP).*
- 5. Promote Awareness that there is no single cause for suicide, and that suicide most often occurs when stressors exceed current coping abilities of someone suffering from a mental health condition.*
- 6. Develop and implement strategies to increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.*

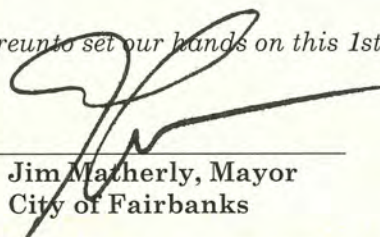
NOW, THEREFORE, I Bryce Ward, Mayor of the Fairbanks North Star Borough, and I, Jim Matherly, Mayor of the City of Fairbanks, and I, Michael Welch, Mayor of the City of North Pole, by virtue of the authority vested in us, do hereby designate September 6th - September 12th as

“National Suicide Prevention Week”

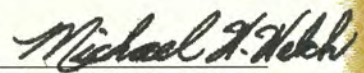
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands on this 1st day of September 2020.



Bryce Ward, Mayor
Fairbanks North Star
Borough

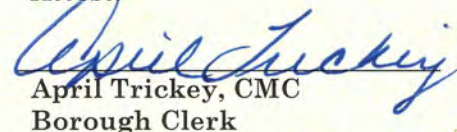


Jim Matherly, Mayor
City of Fairbanks



Michael Welch, Mayor
City of North Pole

Attest:



April Trickey, CMC
Borough Clerk

