



**Declaring September 2022 as Suicide Prevention Month in Roosevelt County**

**WHEREAS**, September is known globally as “Suicide Prevention Month”, the National Suicide Prevention + Action Month Proclamation was created to raise the visibility of the mental health resources and suicide prevention services available in our community. The goal is to start the conversation about mental health and the impact of suicide to help destigmatize the conversation and help connect people with the appropriate support services; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (A.F.S.P.), Suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death among adults, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 in the US; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 48,000 people died by suicide across the United States in each year, with an average of 132 suicides completed daily; and

**WHEREAS**, New Mexico ranks fourth in the nation for age-adjusted suicide rates and New Mexico’s suicide rate was 79 percent higher than the U.S. rate; and

**WHEREAS**, in New Mexico, suicide is the second leading cause of death for ages thirty-four and younger; the fourth leading cause of death for ages thirty-five to forty-four; the ninth leading cause of death for ages fifty-five to sixty-four; the fourteenth leading cause of death for ages sixty-five and older; and is the tenth leading cause of death in the state overall; and

**WHEREAS**, each and every suicide directly impacts a minimum of 100 additional people, including family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and community members; and

**WHEREAS**, the Roosevelt County Board of Commission publicly places its full support behind those who work in the fields of mental health, education, and law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage all residents to take the time to understand the importance of mental health education and recognize that taking care of ourselves and others includes taking care of mental health; and

**WHEREAS**; it is essential to share the message that it is always okay to ask for help and that individuals struggling with thoughts of suicide or self-harm should be encouraged and assisted in reaching out for help; and, in New Mexico the following are phone numbers to reach out for help: Dialing 988 for behavioral or mental health crises; the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line at 1-855-662-7474; and the Agora Crisis Line at 505-277-3013 or 855-505-4505.


NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Roosevelt County Board of Commission do hereby proclaim the month of September 2022, as

**National Suicide Prevention Month in Roosevelt County**

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the County of Roosevelt to be affixed this 6th day of September, 2022.

  
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Lewis "Shane" Lee, Chairman

Attest:

  
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Nath Baca, Deputy County Clerk  
Chief Deputy

