

THURSTON COUNTY

# Proclamation

## **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**

*WHEREAS, September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, September 8-14, 2019 is National Suicide Prevention Week, and suicide prevention is a priority in our community; and*

*WHEREAS, suicide is the 8th leading cause of death for Thurston County residents and the leading cause of death among county youth aged 10-17; and*

*WHEREAS, 1 in every 5 Thurston County 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 1 in every 4 Thurston County 10<sup>th</sup> graders have seriously considered taking their own life; and*

*WHEREAS, Thurston County is home to active duty service members and military veterans; and every other day in Washington a veteran dies by suicide; and*

*WHEREAS, thinking about suicide occurs regardless of age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, income level, religion, profession or background; and*

*WHEREAS, talking about suicide does not increase the risk for suicide and everyone can have a conversation with someone they are worried or concerned about; and*

*WHEREAS, there is no single cause for suicide, but there are warning signs that we can learn more about; and*

*WHEREAS, demonstrating care and compassion about suicide is something each and every one of us can do; and*

*WHEREAS, local groups like Thurston Youth Alive, the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), and many others are working to increase awareness of what can be done to prevent suicide and provide resources in our communities.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board of Health hereby proclaims **September Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** in Thurston County and encourages all residents to envision a world dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide through prevention education, advocacy and resources.

Adopted this tenth day of September, 2019

BOARD OF HEALTH



*[Handwritten signatures of board members]*

