

Proclamation



SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

WHEREAS, the month of September is recognized as National Suicide Prevention Month; and

WHEREAS, suicide is a national public health challenge that affects individuals, families, and communities throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death, second-leading for individuals ages 10-35 and on average, 132 Americans die by suicide each day which accounted for 48,344 suicide deaths in 2018; and

WHEREAS, there have been 6,200 veteran and military suicides reported during 2019 - 2020 an average of 17 a day; and

WHEREAS, on March 5, 2019, the President signed Executive Order 13861 known as the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide or PREVENTS; and

WHEREAS, today, PREVENTS is coordinating with state and local governments to increase awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to reduce suicides in this country; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor's Office of Veteran Affairs along with the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs and other organizations, work together to address Veteran suicides; and

WHEREAS, continued education and services can help break barriers and improve the quality of life of individuals who are affected with mental health illness and reduce suicides for all Americans:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, DC, do hereby proclaim September 10, 2020, in Washington, DC, as "SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY."



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser", written over a horizontal line.