

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

## SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

### A PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a statewide and national public health crisis, and suicide prevention is a statewide and national responsibility; everyone in North Carolina has a role to play to save a life; and

**WHEREAS**, during Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in North Carolina and throughout the United States, National Suicide Prevention Week is observed September 7–12, and World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10 is internationally recognized by the World Health Organization; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the United States and 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34; the 4<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for those ages 25 to 45 years; and

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 11 minutes, resulting in more than 48,000 suicides each year; people who attempt suicide do not want to die – they are in serious emotional pain; and

**WHEREAS**, in North Carolina, more than 1,400 people die by suicide each year, including an average of five veterans per week; more people survive suicide attempts than those who die; and

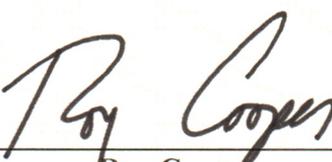
**WHEREAS**, suicide is the only leading cause of death in the United States that has increased every year for the past decade; it is estimated that there are more than 1.4 million suicide attempts each year; and

**WHEREAS**, help, hope and recovery supports are offered through the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention; National Alliance on Mental Illness; North Carolina Collaborative for Children, Youth and Families; Governor's Working Group on Veterans; and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255); and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina encourages people to recognize that deaths by suicide are preventable; there is no single cause for suicide and no single prevention program is effective for all communities; and coping with stress, safety planning, and reducing access to lethal means must be part of routine health and behavioral care for all; everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim September, 2020, as “**SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-fifth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.