

## **2025 RES-155**

### **RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 2025 AS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**

**WHEREAS**, September 1, 2025, marked the beginning of Suicide Prevention Month, which has been observed in the United States since 2008 to raise awareness of the growing public health crisis of deaths by suicide in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide claims more than 720,000 lives every year in the United States, with one person dying by suicide approximately every eleven minutes; and

**WHEREAS**, Dane County reports an average of 73 suicide deaths per year, which is lower than the state average but is increasing at a concerning rate; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2025 theme is “Changing the Narrative on Suicide,” which calls on everyone to acknowledge those affected by suicide by transforming silence, stigma, and misunderstanding into openness, empathy, support, and action; and

**WHEREAS**, local organizations, such as the Suicide Prevention and Harm Reduction Coalition of Dane County, which is actively working to reduce preventable injuries and deaths by Suicide through its Zero Suicide Initiative, by promoting preventive resources such as the 988-crisis line, suicide prevention training, and community discussions; and

**WHEREAS**, this organization also works to improve treatment access, advance health care best practices, and reduce access to lethal means, including firearms, to reduce deaths by suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide touches individuals and families across our communities and requires us all to learn and educate on the preventive resources available, continue to advocate for accessible and affordable mental health services, and create culturally-responsive evidence-based programs and policies that reduce risk factors and strengthen protective practices; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors commits to supporting organizations like the Suicide Prevention and Harm Reduction Coalition of Dane County as they advocate for policies, provide resources and trainings, and continue to raise awareness about suicide prevention for residents of Dane County.

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes September as Suicide Prevention Month, and it calls upon all residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations to consider how they can support those affected by suicide, by educating on prevention resources and advocating for policies that will prevent future deaths.

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Patrick Miles, Chair  
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this  
\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

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Scott McDonell,  
Dane County Clerk