

WHEREAS, September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, which directs the public’s attention to this public health epidemic that is destroying lives, families and even whole communities; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death in the U.S. among individuals age 10 to 34 years old; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the fourth leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 35 and 54; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death overall in the U.S., claiming the lives of over 47,000 people; and

WHEREAS, suicide is an epidemic that may co-occur with depression; and depression is being linked in more than 50 percent of suicides; and

WHEREAS, on average, there are 129 suicides a day or 1 every 11.11 minutes. In St. Lucie County, there were 55 suicides in 2018; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the only death that is 100% preventable. By offering the public education, data, support, and services that are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, we as a community have taken a step toward preventing another suicide by our residents; and therefore, we as a community are honored to be part of the healing process and we support services addressing mental illness and drug and alcohol addiction.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Linda Hudson, Mayor of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby proclaim September 2019 as:

“Suicide Prevention Awareness Month”

in the City of Fort Pierce and urge our residents to learn how they may help because Suicide Prevention is everyone’s business.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, to be affixed this 16th day of September 2019.

MAYOR/COMMISSIONER