

*Proclamation declaring September
National Suicide Prevention Month*

Whereas Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, resulting the tragic deaths of nearly 50,000 fellow citizens at an astonishing average rate of 130 suicides daily; and

Whereas It is estimated that each suicide may directly impact a minimum of 100 additional people, including family, friends, co-workers, neighbors and community members; and

Whereas Suicidal thoughts, much like other mental health conditions, can affect anyone regardless of age, gender or background and is, in fact, considered an untreated mental illness; and

Whereas Suicide prevention is important year-round, but Suicide Prevention Month promotes a dedicated time when our community, possessing a collective passion and combined strength, may come together to address a difficult topic; and

Whereas Suicide Prevention Month includes National Suicide Prevention Week, which this year begins on Sunday, September 4th, and ends on Saturday, September 10th, which coincides with World Suicide Prevention Day; and

Whereas One highlight of Suicide Prevention Week includes the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's Out of the Darkness Walks, one of which will occur locally on September 10th on the Weslaco campus of South Texas College

Now therefore, be it proclaimed that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court declares September as National Suicide Prevention Month and the week of September 4th through September 10th as National Suicide Prevention Week, and encourages the residents of Hidalgo County to collectively address this difficult issue with the goal of helping those in distress.

Approved this 6th day of September, 2022.

RICHARD F. CORTEZ
County Judge

DAVID L. FUENTES
County Commissioner, Pct. 1

EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU
County Commissioner, Pct. 2

EVERARDO "EVER" VILLARREAL
County Commissioner, Pct. 3

ELLIE TORRES
County Commissioner, Pct. 4

Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.
County Clerk