

## Proclamation Declaring September 2018 as Suicide Prevention Month

**WHEREAS**, in the United States, there are more than 1.7 million deaths by suicide annually – on average one person dies by suicide every three hours; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the 11<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in Texas and the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 15 to 34; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the people who died never received effective behavioral health services, for many reasons including the difficulty of accessing services and the stigma of using behavioral health treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, all residents of Hidalgo County are urged to recognize suicide as a significant public health problem; support the development of accessible behavioral health services; and acknowledge that no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient for all populations or communities; and

**WHEREAS**, the National Suicide Hotline is 1-800-273-TALK; everyone is encouraged to save this number and use it when you, a friend, or loved one is experiencing a crisis, so that lives can be saved; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2<sup>nd</sup> Hidalgo County Suicide Awareness and Prevention Event, hosted by Say Yes to Life, the Peralez Family, Chris Ardis, Vivian Velazquez Tamez, and the International Baccalaureate at Lamar Academy Student Council will be held at 6:30 p.m. on September 8, 2018 at North San Juan Park on 509 East Earling Road in San Juan.

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED** that the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court hereby designates September 2018, as “Suicide Prevention Month” in Hidalgo County and urges all Hidalgo County residents to learn how they can help raise awareness, heed warning signs, and encourage those in crisis to seek help.

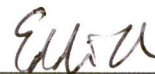
Approved this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.



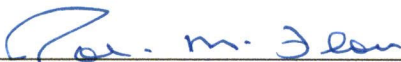
RAMON GARCIA  
County Judge



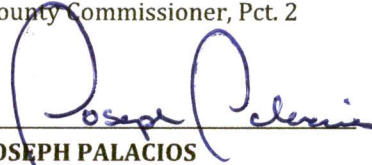
DAVID L. FUENTES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 1



EDUARDO "EDDIE" CANTU  
County Commissioner, Pct. 2



JOE M. FLORES  
County Commissioner, Pct. 3



JOSEPH PALACIOS  
County Commissioner, Pct. 4



Attest: ARTURO GUAJARDO, JR.  
County Clerk