

STATE OF MICHIGAN



CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN,
I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim

September 6 – September 12, 2020

as

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

WHEREAS, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in both Michigan and the nation, and a top five leading cause among individuals ages 10-54 years; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan has higher rates of suicide among persons 10-19 and 25-44 years of age compared to the nation as a whole; and,

WHEREAS, in 2018, the highest suicide rate in the state was among working age adults ages 30-34 years; and,

WHEREAS, surviving family and friends not only suffer the trauma of losing a loved one to suicide, but are at higher risk themselves for attempting suicide; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Michigan Association for Suicide Prevention, and national and local suicide prevention organizations have been working tirelessly to halt the growth of suicide rates in Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission has been established to examine causes and solutions to the rising rates of suicide in the state; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan's federally funded Transforming Youth Suicide Prevention Program is committed to lowering the youth and young adult suicide rate by creating true, sustainable change in both state and local systems that serve youth and young adults; and,

WHEREAS, Michigan can reduce its suicide rate by employing best practices, gaining community involvement, and encouraging seeking help through open, direct, and honest talk about suicide;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gretchen Whitmer, governor of Michigan, do hereby proclaim September 6-12, 2020, as Suicide Prevention Week in Michigan and call upon our citizens and interested groups to observe the week with appropriate activities that promote awareness that there is hope—suicide is preventable, and mental illness is treatable.



Gretchen Whitmer

Gretchen Whitmer
Governor

