City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

Proclamation

Suicide Prevention Month
September 2025

WHEREAS, suicide is a serious public health issue that affects individuals, families, and communities across our nation, including our community; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, El Paso County experienced 155 deaths by suicide, an 18% decrease from 189 in 2023. While this progress is meaningful, every life lost to suicide is a profound tragedy, and every death leaves a ripple of grief that touches families, friends, colleagues, and neighbors; and

WHEREAS, firearms remain the leading method of suicide in El Paso County, underscoring the importance of safe storage as a proven, lifesaving practice, and community campaigns and trainings are helping residents recognize warning signs, respond with care, and reduce access to lethal means in times of crisis; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs remains committed to preventing suicide and promoting mental health; since taking office in 2023, Mayor Yemi Mobolade, First Lady Abbey Mobolade, and Councilmember David Leinweber, have made mental health a top priority, leading to the launch of Pikes Peak Rising, a regional initiative that expands education, strengthens partnerships, and builds social support systems to prevent suicide; and

WHEREAS, through efforts such as Pikes Peak Rising 360, the Pikes Peak Rising Business Collective, HOPE workplace certification, 1,000 Neighborhood Gatherings, GRIT resiliency training, and suicide prevention trainings, the City and its partner organizations, mental health professionals, and advocates are promoting connection, reducing stigma, and expanding access to resources, including the 988 Colorado Mental Health Line; and

WHEREAS, the City of Colorado Springs is an active partner in advancing the work of the Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County, which began five years ago and has grown into a coalition of health systems, nonprofits, schools, military leaders, faith communities, businesses, and government partners; all working together to prevent suicide and build a connected, resilient community of hope; and

WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Month is an opportunity to raise awareness, honor those affected, and encourage all residents to take action by taking a training, practicing safe firearm storage, connecting with neighbors, or sharing 988 resources, all of us can contribute to a safer and healthier Colorado Springs.

NOW, THEREFORE, The Mayor and City Council of Colorado Springs, do hereby recognize September 2025 as Suicide Prevention Month in Colorado Springs and , and call upon all residents to promote mental wellness, support those in need, and work together to save lives and strengthen our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this twenty-third day of September 2025.

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Yemi Mobolade, Mayor
City of Colorado Springs

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Lynette Crow-Iverson, President
Colorado Springs City Council