

City of Colorado Springs, Colorado

# Proclamation

## Suicide Prevention Month September 2023

- WHEREAS,** 194 El Paso County residents died by suicide and thousands of their friends and family were forever changed by these losses last year; and
- WHEREAS,** in El Paso County in 2022, suicide was the second leading cause of preventable deaths for people of all ages and men accounted for a disproportionate 74 percent of those deaths; and
- WHEREAS,** in 2022, suicide by firearm accounted for over 60% of suicide deaths in El Paso County (10% higher than the national average) supporting the idea that with ownership comes responsibility and increased awareness about the safe storage practices for suicide prevention is needed in our community; and
- WHEREAS,** although El Paso County has seen a decrease in youth and military suicides over the last year, it remains vitally import to continue suicide prevention efforts with partners throughout the City of Colorado Springs accessing the strategies that have proven effective with our youth and military, such as increasing access to suicide safer care and increasing our informed public through providing basic suicide prevention trainings; and
- WHEREAS,** the Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County's vision is to reduce isolation, suicide attempts, and deaths by creating caring communities that are resilient, connected, and capable of supporting every person, regardless of the struggles they face; and
- WHEREAS,** a starting point to prevent deaths by suicide is for employers to provide standardized suicide prevention policies and procedures to all employees; and
- WHEREAS,** the Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County recognizes that suicide prevention is everyone's business and unites community partners such as the City of Colorado Springs in addressing suicide prevention through trainings, resources, and implementation of the Community Suicide Prevention and Response Plan; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Colorado Springs prioritizes mental health and wellbeing to prevent suicide and enhance the quality of life of our residents.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** The Mayor and City Council of Colorado Springs, do hereby recognize September 203 as Suicide Prevention Month in Colorado Springs and applaud the efforts of The Suicide Prevention Collaborative of El Paso County as they strive to make a difference.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF,** we have hereunto set our hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Colorado Springs to be affixed this twelfth day of September 2023.

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Yemi Mobolade, Mayor  
City of Colorado Springs

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Randy Helms, President  
Colorado Springs City Council