



Charter Township of Orion

Oakland County, Michigan

Proclamation

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

By the Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion

Whereas, September is known as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and is intended to help promote awareness surrounding each of the suicide prevention resources available to us and our community; and

Whereas, according to the CDC, each year more than 41,000 people die by suicide; and

Whereas, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults in the United State, and the second leading cause of death among people aged 10-24; and

Whereas, suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

Whereas, the goal is to learn how to help those around us and how to talk about suicide without increasing the risk of harm; and

Whereas, local organizations like Suicide Prevention Services and national organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness are on the front lines of a battle that many still refuse to discuss in public, as suicide and mental illness remain too taboo a topic to speak on; and

Whereas, our community is no different than any other community in the country, but chooses to publicly state and place our full support behind local educators, mental health professionals, athletic coaches, pack leaders, police officers, and parents, as partners in supporting our community in simply being available to one another; and

Whereas, every member of our community should understand that throughout life's struggles we all need the occasional reminder that we are all silently fighting our own battles; and

Whereas, we encourage all residents to take the time to inquire as to the wellbeing of their family, friends, and neighbors over the next few days and to genuinely convey their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate – a simple phone call, message, handshake, or hug can go a long way towards helping someone realize that suicide is not the answer; and

Now Therefore, I, Chris Barnett, Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion, do hereby proclaim the month of **September 2019** as **National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** and encourage all residents to support one another as partners to support our community and to practice kindness and acceptance for one another.



Chris Barnett, Supervisor
Charter Township of Orion

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