

WHEREAS, the month of September is nationally recognized as *Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*; and

WHEREAS, more than 50,000 Americans died by suicide in 2023. In Florida, a person dies by suicide every two hours on average; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the second leading cause of death for children, adolescents, and young adults ages 10 to 24 years; and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children’s Hospital Association, and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry have declared a national emergency in child mental health; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to recognize the signs of depression that may lead to thoughts of suicide, including speaking about wanting to die, feelings of isolation or hopelessness, increased use of drugs or alcohol, and severe mood swings; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to recognize the best methods to prevent suicide when a person is in crisis, including asking if the person is thinking of taking their life, keeping them safe and removing access to lethal means, and getting them professional help. In Florida, anyone can dial 988 or call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 or text 741741; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics has provided significant leadership in suicide prevention through community education and programming; and

WHEREAS, the League of Women Voters of Broward County has provided significant leadership in suicide prevention through community education and creation of their *Lock It Up!* Gun Safety Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Commission of the City of Coconut Creek, Florida, hereby proclaims September 2024 as

“SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH”

in support of community education initiatives aimed at increasing awareness of suicide warning signs and preventive measures.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto
set our hands and caused the seal of the
City of Coconut Creek to be affixed
this 12th day of September 2024.**