



Proclamation

WHEREAS, September is known globally as “Suicide Prevention Awareness Month” and was created to raise the visibility of the mental health resources and suicide prevention services available in our community; and

WHEREAS, the goal is to start the conversation about mental health and the impact of suicide to help destigmatize the conversation and help connect people with the appropriate support services; and

WHEREAS, Empower Youth Network, a Snoqualmie Valley-based nonprofit with a mission to promote and inspire youth to lead safe, healthy, and successful lives, incorporates suicide prevention programs in its work, including *How to Help a Friend* – a peer-to-peer suicide prevention training curriculum serving middle school students in both the Snoqualmie and Riverview School Districts, as well as *Youth Mental Health First Aid* – a nationally-recognized training that helps all adults understand how to assist youth in crisis; and

WHEREAS, each and every suicide directly impacts a minimum of 100 additional people, including family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and community members; and

WHEREAS, the City of Snoqualmie publicly places its full support behind those who work in the fields of mental health, education, and law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, global organizations, as well as local mental health partners including Empower Youth Network, serve on the front lines of a war that many still refuse to discuss, as stigma regarding suicide and mental health issues is far too prevalent; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Katherine Ross, Mayor of the City of Snoqualmie, Washington, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2023, as

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

and encourage all residents to take the time to understand the importance of mental health education and recognize that taking care of ourselves and others includes taking care of mental health.

Katherine Ross, Mayor
Proclamation No. 23-13

