

State of Missouri
Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, suicide is a critical public health issue, impacting individuals, families, friends, and entire communities; and

WHEREAS, more than 1,100 Missourians die by suicide each year, an average of one person every seven hours; and

WHEREAS, suicide ranks as the second leading cause of death among 10- to 17-year-olds, third leading cause among 18- to 34-year-olds, and fourth leading cause among 35- to 54-year-olds; and

WHEREAS, suicide rates have increased by 27% since 2009, with Missouri ranked 16th highest in suicide rates in the nation. Roughly five times as many people die by suicide in Missouri than in alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents; and

WHEREAS, suicide rates are significantly higher in the industries of mining, construction, agriculture and forestry, and transportation and warehousing; and

WHEREAS, suicide is preventable by starting a conversation, providing support, and directing help to those who need it. Mental health resources are available in Missouri, with Community Mental Health Centers located across the state; and

WHEREAS, those in immediate crisis can contact the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or by texting "MOSAFE" to 741741; and

WHEREAS, the state has designated the twenty-second day of each month as "Buddy Check 22 Day" to promote education and awareness of the problems of suicide facing military personnel; and

WHEREAS, the state joined the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, Veterans and their Families, through a partnership with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs, to further advance its suicide prevention efforts for the military community and all Missourians; and

WHEREAS, the state of Missouri, and the Department of Mental Health, along with other state agencies including the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in coordination with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, shall continue its commitment to sharing resources, helping those in need, and promoting suicide prevention awareness.

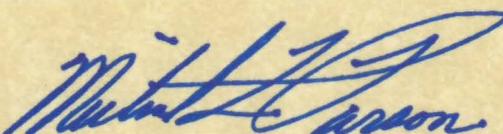
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby proclaim September 5-11, 2021, to be

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

in Missouri and encourage all Missourians to promote suicide prevention awareness.

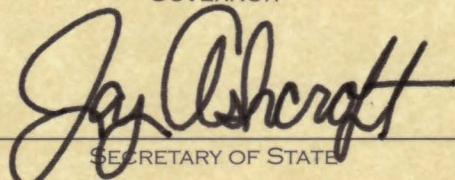
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Missouri, in the City of Jefferson, this 31st day of August, 2021.





Michael L. Parson
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


SECRETARY OF STATE