

# State of South Carolina

## Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, suicide remains the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the United States and in South Carolina and the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), over 47,000 individuals in the United States, including 852 people in South Carolina, died by suicide in 2019; and

WHEREAS, suicide rates have increased 30 percent over the last two decades, finally experiencing a 2.1 percent decrease between 2018 and 2019; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that there were 1.38 million suicide attempts in 2019; and

WHEREAS, over 90 percent of the people who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition that is often not recognized or treated; and

WHEREAS, suicide deaths are preventable, and suicide prevention organizations are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those who have lost someone to or struggle with thoughts of suicide through research, education, resources, and advocacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Henry McMaster, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim September 5 - 11, 2021, as

### SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to call attention to the complex problem of suicide and the prevention resources available as well as to provide support to those affected by suicide.



HENRY McMASTER  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA