

UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE

HOPE FOR THE DAY's 2020 National Suicide Prevention + Action Month Proclamation

WHEREAS; September is known globally as "Suicide Prevention Month", the **National Suicide Prevention + Action Month Proclamation** was created to raise the visibility of the mental health resources and suicide prevention services available in our community. The goal is to speak openly about the importance of mental health and the impacts of suicide to help remove the surrounding stigmas, and to direct those in need to the appropriate support services; and

WHEREAS; Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults, and the 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 in the US; and

WHEREAS; more than 47,000 people died by suicide across the United States in 2017, which, according to the CDC, was more than twice the number of homicides, with an average of 129 suicides completed daily, which includes active military and veterans accounting for 13.5% of all suicides nationally; and

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

WHEREAS; Yorkville, Illinois is no different than any other community across the country, but chooses to publicly place our full support behind local educators, mental health professionals, athletic coaches, law enforcement officers, and parents, as partners in supporting our community in simply being available to one another; and

WHEREAS; global organizations like Hope For The Day (HFTD) and our local partner, NAMI-KDK (Kane-South, DeKalb & Kendall Counties), are on the front lines of a war that many still refuse to discuss, as suicide and mental health remain too uncomfortable to talk about; and

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

WHEREAS, I encourage all residents to take the time to check in with their family, friends, and neighbors on a regular basis and to honestly communicate 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, John Purcell, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2020, as National Suicide Prevention + Action Month in the United City of Yorkville.

Dated this 11th day of February, 2020, A.D.


John Purcell, Mayor