



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, September is established as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in order to help raise awareness of supportive resources available in local communities to assist those struggling with thoughts of suicide; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, each year more than 48,000 people die by suicide; and

WHEREAS, organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK) work to help individuals in crisis and provide resources to shed light on this highly stigmatized topic; and

WHEREAS; thoughts of suicide are a symptom of pain (in any form), that transcends age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and that suicide prevention belongs to every member of the community; and

WHEREAS; the City of Valdez is not only familiar with the devastation that comes with EVEN ONE loss of life to suicide, but also familiar with the caring and love we have for each other that helps heal broken hearts; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez encourages all members of the community to perform an act of kindness each day this month as a token reminder of our connection to and responsibility for each other.

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez supports Providence Valdez Counseling Center and our community health network in their commitment to raise awareness about mental health and provide accessible services to assist individuals in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Sharon Scheidt, Mayor of the City of Valdez, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2021, as

National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

in the City of Valdez and call upon our citizens, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our city to increasing awareness and understanding of suicide prevention, and the need for appropriate accessible services to assist individuals in crisis.

CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA

ATTEST:

Sharon Scheidt, Mayor

Sheri L. Pierce, MMC, City Clerk