

# **P R O C L A M A T I O N**

## **NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION + ACTION MONTH SEPTEMBER 2023**

**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 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**, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34 in the US, with more than 48,000 people died by suicide across the United States in each year; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Alliance on Mental Illness with an average of 132 suicides completed daily and each one directly impacting 100 additional people, including friends, service members, family, social media connections, and neighbors we can safely assume everyone has been impacted by suicide;

**WHEREAS**, Oak Park, Illinois publicly places its full support behind those who work in the fields of mental health, education, and law enforcement; and

**WHEREAS** national organizations like NAMI and our local mental health partners, Thrive Counseling Center, Mosaic Counseling & Wellness, Riveredge Hospital and so many more, serve on the front lines of a war that many still refuse to discuss due to stigma regarding suicide and mental health issues; and

**WHEREAS**, we encourage all residents to take the time to understand mental health through education and recognize that we need to take care of our mental health while we take care of each other.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Vicki Scaman, President of the Village of Oak Park and the Board of Trustees, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2023 as “National Suicide Prevention + Action Month” in the Village of Oak Park.

**DATED** this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023.

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Vicki Scaman, Village President

**ATTEST**

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Christina M. Waters, Village Clerk