

Proclamation

City of Longview, Washington

Suicide Awareness & Prevention Month *September 2017*

WHEREAS, mental health is essential to everyone's overall health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, Americans experience times of difficulty and stress in their lives in large part because of abuse, poverty, bullying and many other types of trauma that are a root cause of mental illness; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults in the U.S. and the 2nd leading cause of death among those between the ages of 10-24, ninety percent of those who succumb to suicide have a diagnosable mental health disorder and are the most emotionally vulnerable; and

WHEREAS, suicide affects countless friends and family members who are left to aimlessly struggle with their loss; therefore, the crucial need for preventative tools must be shared in order to reduce this tragedy so that those at risk can be identified before it's too late; and

WHEREAS, that effective treatment is available when needed so those individuals can recover and lead full productive lives; and

WHEREAS, each business, school, government agency, faith-based organization, health care provider, and citizen has a responsibility to understand the role an institution or individual plays in promoting mental wellness, suicide awareness and prevention,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Don Jensen, Mayor of the City of Longview, do hereby proclaim the month of September to be "National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month," and call upon all citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, churches, businesses and schools to renew its commitment to raise awareness and understanding of the causes and prevention of suicide.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Longview to be affixed this 24th day of August 2017.

Don Jensen, Mayor