

EFFECTIVE DATE: September 25, 2019

**PROCLAMATION OF THE EL PASO COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH 2019**

WHEREAS, there were 1,271 deaths by suicide in Colorado during 2018, making this the highest number and rate of suicide deaths ever recorded in our state; and

WHEREAS, 160 El Paso County residents died by suicide and thousands of their friends and family were forever changed by these losses last year; and

WHEREAS, in El Paso County in 2018, suicide was the sixth leading cause of death for people of all ages and men accounted for a disproportionate 71 percent of those deaths; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the leading cause of death among Colorado youth ages 10 to 17; and

WHEREAS, El Paso County Public Health has established the Youth Suicide Prevention Workgroup to convene community partners to take collective action in support of youth mental health and suicide prevention; and

WHEREAS, local community members are also deeply invested in multiple suicide prevention efforts, including partnerships with state and national scientists and public health professionals through the Colorado-National Collaborative, stigma reduction activities, and implementation of a variety of evidence-based suicide prevention and mental health programming; and

WHEREAS, September is National Suicide Prevention Month, and suicide prevention is everyone's business; and

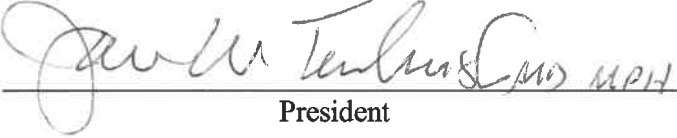
WHEREAS, El Paso County Public Health urges all El Paso County residents to change the conversation from suicide to suicide prevention, and to help save lives by completing trainings, eliminating stigmas, and sharing the message that hope and help are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE EL PASO COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH:

1. The month of September 2019 is proclaimed as "*El Paso County Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*" in El Paso County, Colorado.
2. El Paso County Board of Health recognizes that no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient but that through these initiatives we can all work together to increase awareness and encourage people at risk to seek help.

MOVED, SECONDED AND ADOPTED BY THE EL PASO COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH AT ITS MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 25, 2019, IN COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO.

EL PASO COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

BY: 
President

ATTEST BY: 
Secretary