



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

FLORIDA SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

WHEREAS, suicide is one of the most unsettling and tragic events a family and a community can experience, with 3,152 lives lost in Florida in 2015; and

WHEREAS, suicide was the ninth leading cause of death in Florida and the second leading cause of death in Florida among people from the age of 25-34 in 2015; and

WHEREAS; Florida veterans, active-duty military personnel, and National Guardsmen face a disproportionate risk as compared to the general population of Florida; and

WHEREAS, public awareness of this problem is a key to preventing further loss of life; and can be reduced through awareness, education, and treatment; and there is a higher risk for suicide among the survivors of those who died by suicide or those who have attempted suicide; and

WHEREAS, Florida is a leader in the effort to prevent suicide, having developed a 4-year state plan that paves the way for reducing suicide deaths; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Legislature established a Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council to coordinate the implementation of Florida's Suicide Prevention Plan; and

WHEREAS, The Florida Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council is a grassroots collaboration of organizations working to eliminate the stigma of suicide, educate the community about the warning signs of suicide, and ultimately reduce the rate of suicide in our state; and

WHEREAS, the Florida Department of Children and Families is committed to working with community partners to reduce suicide through suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby extend my support to all observing April 6, 2017, as *Florida Suicide Prevention Day*.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this 24th day of March, in the year two thousand seventeen.


Governor