

Resolution No.:

Adopt a Resolution proclaiming September as National **Suicide Prevention Month**.

WHEREAS, the month of September is National Suicide Prevention Month, a time in which individuals, organizations and communities around the country join their voices to amplify the message that suicide can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, the past year has presented our communities with challenges and led to transitions that, expected or unexpected, welcomed or not, can be unsettling, disorienting, and stressful; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has changed our fabric of life, and major life changes are environmental risk factors for suicide; and

WHEREAS, knowing the signs of suicide, finding the words to communicate with someone they are concerned about, and reaching out to local resources; and

WHEREAS, we know that connecting, working with, and supporting one another can help prepare us for the future; and

WHEREAS, all Californians are urged to play a role in suicide prevention and promote mental health and wellness as we strive towards zero suicides; and

WHEREAS, Monterey County is moving forward to establish a suicide prevention coalition, MC HOPES, and developing a strategic plan to with a long-term vision of zero suicides in Monterey County; and

WHEREAS, September 2021 is recognized across the United States as Suicide Prevention Month and provides the opportunity to educate our community about the warning signs for suicide, how to reach out to those experiencing an emotional crisis and connect to resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Chair Wendy Root Askew and all members of the County Board of Supervisors on this 14th Day of September, 2021, that the month of September 2021 be declared '**SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH**'.