



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Day and Week recognizes that suicide is a public health concern, and suicide prevention is a national, statewide and local responsibility; and

WHEREAS, suicide rates have increased 30 percent over the last two decades, with reported decreases of 2.1% between 2018-19, and 2.9% between 2019 and 2020; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, 3,135 people died by suicide in Florida in 2020; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide through research, education, advocacy and resources; and

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize suicide as a preventable public health problem, to address the disparity in access to mental health care for underserved and underrepresented groups, and to advocate for a comprehensive suicide, mental health, and substance use crisis response system to build on the historic new "988" number for the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline; and

WHEREAS, World Suicide Prevention Day is recognized internationally on September 10, and National Suicide Prevention Week will be recognized across the United States from September 4 through September 10, 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Teri Johnston, Mayor of the City of Key West along with Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover and the entire City Commission of Key West, Florida, do hereby proclaim **September 10, 2022**, as

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States."

WITNESS our hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida,
this 7th day of September 2022.

Teri Johnston, Mayor

Mary Lou Hoover, Commissioner