

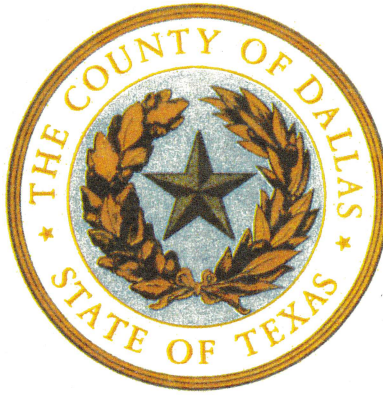
# Resolution

ORDER NO. 2022-0977

DATE: September 20, 2022

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

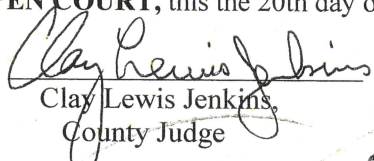


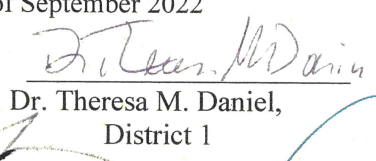
**BE IT REMEMBERED**, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 20th day of September 2022, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner District 1, and seconded by John Wiley Price, Commissioner District No. 3, the following Resolution was adopted:

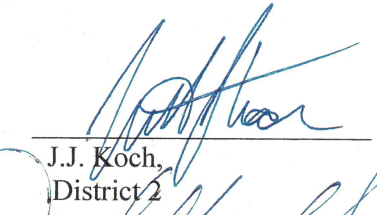
- WHEREAS**, The Dallas County Commissioners Court recognizes suicide as a complex and multi-factorial public health issue, resulting from a wide range of biological, psychological, social, economic and cultural risk factors, vulnerabilities and triggers. There is no single cause for suicide; and
- WHEREAS**, Suicide is the eleventh leading cause of deaths in the United States. According to the Center for Disease Control, in 2020, an estimated 12.2 million adults thought about suicide, 3.2 million made a plan, and 1.2 million attempted suicide; and
- WHEREAS**, According to the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute (MMHPI), in 2021, nearly 600 individuals in Dallas and surrounding counties concluded that suicide was the only solution to their enduring pain (an 11% increase from 2020). The Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute also reported that deaths from suicide rose by 6 % in Dallas County between 2020 and 2021. Some key facts that the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) points out is that 79% of all people who die by suicide are male, although more women than men attempt suicide, men are four times more likely to die by suicide. Suicide is the second leading cause of death among people aged 10-14 and the third leading cause of death among people aged 15-24 in the United States; and
- WHEREAS**, According to the CDC the overall rates of suicide in the United States decreased in 2019 and 2020. despite the stress and anxieties of the COVID-19 pandemic. Despite the overall decrease in rates, there are differences when looking at specific groups. National and local studies attribute the trend to a drop among white Americans, who make up the majority of suicide deaths. Meanwhile, rates for Black, Hispanic and Asian Americans, though lower than their white peers, continued to climb in many states. Statistics show that the combination of disparities in access to health care, economic and financial strain increased many of the risk factors associated with suicidal behavior for specific groups; and
- WHEREAS**, As of July 16, 2022, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline is now available nationwide as the new number to contact for mental health, substance use and suicide crises. This new number offers 24/7 call, text and chat access with trained crisis counselors for individuals who need to quickly connect with support during a crisis; and
- WHEREAS**, No matter the challenge, organizations such as the Greater Dallas Suicide Prevention Coalition, North Texas Behavioral Health Authority, Metrocare Services and the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute are all dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths through collaboration of services and awareness efforts; and
- WHEREAS**, Each year, nearly 50,000 lives across our nation are tragically lost to a community public health problem that is largely preventable. With a commitment to effective interventions to reduce risk factors and increase resilience, preventing suicide is within reach.

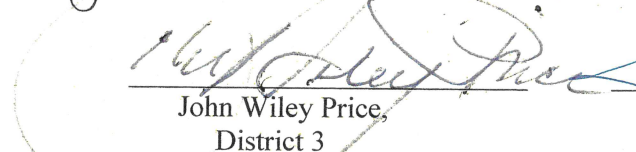
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Dallas County Commissioners Court does hereby recognize September as **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month**. The Dallas County community is invited to join the Greater Dallas Suicide Prevention Coalition and community leaders at the Dallas County Records Building on September 29, 2022, from 10:30 a.m.– 11:30 a.m. to promote suicide awareness and prevention.

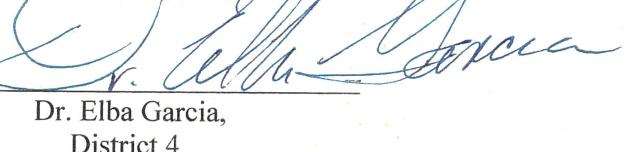
**DONE IN OPEN COURT**, this the 20th day of September 2022

  
Clay Lewis Jenkins,  
County Judge

  
Dr. Theresa M. Daniel,  
District 1

  
J.J. Koch,  
District 2

  
John Wiley Price,  
District 3

  
Dr. Elba Garcia,  
District 4

*Dedicated to Neena Pacholke*