

Resolution



ORDER NO. 2025-0992

DATE: 09/16/2025

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF DALLAS §

BE IT REMEMBERED, at a regular meeting of the Commissioners Court of Dallas County, Texas, held on the 16th day of September 2025, on a motion made by Dr. Theresa M. Daniel, Commissioner District 1, and seconded by Mr. Andrew Sommerman, Commissioner District 2, the following Resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, September 2025 is recognized nationally as Suicide Prevention Month, a designated time to raise awareness, promote open dialogue, reduce stigma, and advocate for systemic change to prevent suicide; and

WHEREAS, The theme for 2025, "Changing the Narrative on Suicide," emphasizes fostering compassionate conversations, challenging misconceptions, and addressing systemic barriers, such as healthcare disparities, socioeconomic factors, and cultural stigmas—that hinder access to mental health support; and

WHEREAS, Suicide remains a significant public health concern, with approximately 49,000 lives lost annually in the United States, including over 4,000 in Texas. That an average of one death every 11 minutes nationwide, underscoring the urgent need for comprehensive prevention strategies. In the U.S., suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death among people ages 10-24, and the 11th leading cause of death overall. This highlights the critical importance of early intervention, youth mental health services, and community-based programs; and

WHEREAS, Every year, 1 in 20 U.S. adults (5%) experience serious thoughts of suicide, with males accounting for 79% of all suicide deaths and being four times more likely to die by suicide than females. This emphasizes the need to tailor prevention efforts to at-risk populations; and

WHEREAS, Certain populations are disproportionately affected, including men, who account for 79% of all suicide deaths, and marginalized groups such as LGBTQ+ youth, Native Americans, and Black communities. These individuals face higher risks due to social inequities, systemic discrimination, and barriers to culturally competent mental health care; and

WHEREAS, The mental health crisis is exacerbated by limited access to mental health services, pervasive stigma surrounding mental illness, and social determinants such as poverty, housing instability, and lack of education, making community awareness, resource accessibility, and culturally sensitive outreach vital; and

WHEREAS, The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is a critical resource providing immediate, confidential support 24/7 to individuals in crisis, helping to connect those in need with appropriate care and intervention; and

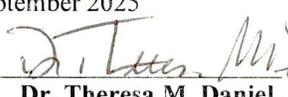
WHEREAS, Our community must unite to destigmatize mental health, educate the public on risk factors and warning signs, promote available resources, and implement preventive measures to save lives and improve overall mental health outcomes.

WHEREAS, We wish to recognize and express our deepest appreciation for Margie Wright of the Suicide and Crisis Center and John Dornheim of Dallas County, who have been instrumental in advancing suicide awareness and prevention efforts over the years. Both have taken the lead in organizing the annual Suicide Prevention Awareness event, demonstrating unwavering dedication and hard work on this vital issue. Although they are unable to join us this year, we want to acknowledge their significant contributions and thank them for their ongoing commitment to saving lives; and

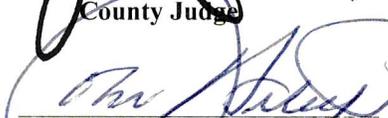
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dallas County Commissioners Court proudly designates September as National Suicide Prevention Month. We urge government officials at all levels, public health professionals, community leaders, educators, residents, and stakeholders to collaborate in the shared commitment of suicide prevention for those suffering in silence. The Dallas County community is invited to join Dallas County, Dallas Independent School District, Greater Dallas Suicide Prevention Coalition, and local leaders on September 30, 2025, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm for the annual Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program. This significant event will be held in the ceremonial room on the 6th floor of the Dallas County Records Building. Together, let us raise awareness, foster understanding, and take meaningful action to support those in need and prevent future tragedies.

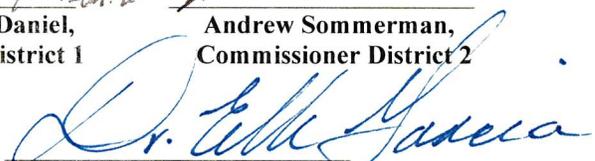
DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 16th day of September 2025


Clay Lewis Jenkins,
County Judge


Dr. Theresa M. Daniel,
Commissioner, District 1


Andrew Sommerman,
Commissioner District 2


John Wiley Price,
Commissioner, District 3


Dr. Elba Garcia,
Commissioner, District 4