



# State of New York

## Executive Chamber

### Proclamation

**Whereas**, New York State recognizes the importance of every area related to the health and well-being of the whole person, and supports initiatives that address such difficult societal issues as suicide -- a major public health problem that requires collective and preventative action in New York State; and

**Whereas**, each suicide attempt and resulting death impacts individuals, families, and communities; and

**Whereas**, in 2018, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline received more than 131,000 calls from New Yorkers -- inclusive of our state's Veterans community as well as the Spanish-speaking population; among the non-veteran, non-Spanish language calls received by Lifeline-affiliated centers within the state, there was an increase of 21% in 2018 from the number of calls initiated in 2017; this is in addition to the 32% increase in statewide calls made in 2017, from the previous year of 2016; and

**Whereas**, these alarmingly high numbers and steady increase in recent years call for the attention of all New Yorkers; and

**Whereas**, the New York State Office of Mental Health's Suicide Prevention Office is committed to efforts that advance suicide prevention in healthcare, schools, and communities across New York State using data informed based practices; and

**Whereas**, in 2018, New York State provided more than 30,000 trainings to community members, healthcare providers, school staff, and students; and

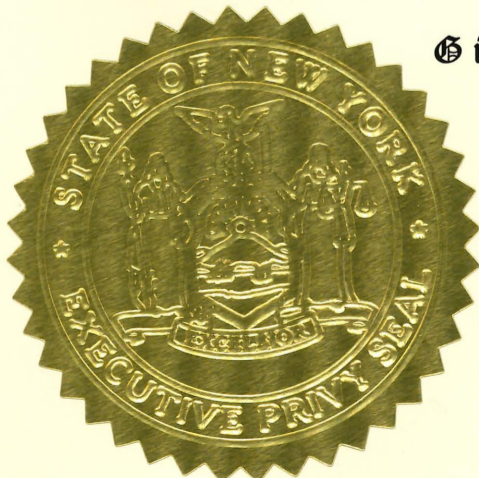
**Whereas**, no single suicide prevention approach is suitable or similarly effective for all populations or communities; and

**Whereas**, September is recognized as Suicide Prevention Month and provides the opportunity to raise awareness of the problem of suicide, educate ourselves about potential warning signs, and how best to help those most in need;

**Now, Therefore**, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2019 as

## SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

in the Empire State.



**G i v e n** under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State  
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this second day  
of September in the year two thousand nineteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor  
Melissa DeRosa