



Proclamation

WHEREAS, September is National Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month, a time to talk openly about suicide, support people who are struggling, and remember those we have lost; and

WHEREAS, suicide took 48,824 lives across the United States in 2024, and millions more Americans struggled with it that year, including 14.3 million adults who seriously considered suicide, 4.6 million who made a plan, and 2.2 million who attempted it; and

WHEREAS, Utah's suicide rate reached 19.5 deaths per 100,000 residents in 2024, the 7th highest in the nation. Utah lost 665 residents to suicide that year, nearly two deaths a day, and saw about 15 more emergency room visits every day for suicide attempts; and

WHEREAS, suicide affects Utah men and women differently: men account for about three in four suicide deaths, while women are hospitalized for attempts at higher rates. Utah youth are especially at risk, with 22.9% of high school students seriously considering suicide, 18.5% making a plan, and 9% attempting it. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Utahns ages 10 to 44; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County proudly invests in behavioral health services so residents in crisis always have somewhere to turn; and

WHEREAS, County behavioral health staff, school counselors, first responders, faith leaders, survivors, and partners like the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Utah Chapter work every day to prevent suicide and support the families it touches; and

WHEREAS, suicide is preventable, and the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline offers free, confidential support 24/7 by call, text, or chat at 988lifeline.org; and

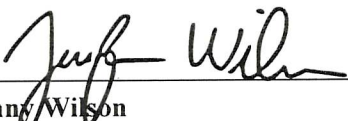
NOW, let us come together as one Salt Lake County to talk openly about suicide, watch out for one another, and make sure every resident knows help is always within reach.

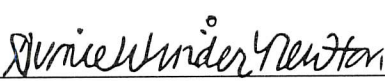
THEREFORE, I, Jenny Wilson, Mayor of Salt Lake County, along with the Salt Lake County Council and independently elected officials, do hereby proclaim September 2026 as Suicide Prevention and Awareness Month. We call on every resident to learn the warning signs, check on those who may be struggling, and share the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline with anyone who needs it. Join us at the Out of the Darkness Community Walk on Saturday, September 5, 2026, at Veterans Memorial Park in West Jordan.

Suicide Prevention Month

A JOINT PROCLAMATION OF THE MAYOR, COUNTY COUNCIL &
ELECTED OFFICIALS OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

Dated this 1st day of September, 2026.


Jenny Wilson
Mayor, Salt Lake County


Aimee Winder Newton
Council Chair, District 3