



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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Acting Chairman

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RESOLUTION

**Recognizing the Month of September, 2015 as
"Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in New Jersey**

October 21, 2015

WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month 2015 will help promote resources and awareness around the issue of suicide prevention, how we can help others, how we can combat the stigma associated with suicide, and how to talk about suicide without increasing the risk of harm; and

WHEREAS, according to the recently released World Health Organization report: "Preventing Suicide: A Global Imperative", over 800,000 people die by suicide across the world each year; and

WHEREAS, isolation increases the risk of suicide, and conversely, having strong social connections is protective against it, so being there for someone who has become disconnected can be life-saving; and

WHEREAS, suicide is devastating for families, friends and community members who are left behind, and as a result of the stigma surrounding suicide, those who are bereaved by suicide are often perceived differently from those who lose a family member through another cause of death; and

WHEREAS, this year's Suicide Prevention Awareness Month theme, Preventing Suicide: Reaching Out and Saving Lives, encourages us all to consider the role that offering support may play in combating suicide; and

WHEREAS, all people deserve the opportunity to live healthy, rewarding lives, and no person should have their potential limited, have their life cut short, or be deprived of their fullest measure of happiness because they do not have the mental health support they need.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes the month of September 2015 as "Suicide Prevention Awareness Month" in New Jersey.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution shall be transmitted to Governor Chris Christie, the New Jersey Legislature, the Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services; and County Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Directors, County Mental Health Administrators, and County Alliance Coordinators.


Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman


Date