



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

CELINA LEVY
Executive Director

RESOLUTION

**Recognizing the Month of September 2023 as
“Suicide Prevention Awareness Month” in New Jersey**

September 19, 2023

WHEREAS, #BeThe1To is the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline’s message for *National Suicide Prevention Month* and beyond, to help spread the word about actions we can all take to prevent suicide, with the Lifeline network and its partners working to change the conversation from suicide to suicide prevention, and to actions that can promote healing, help and give hope; and

WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Week, the Monday through Sunday surrounding *World Suicide Prevention Day*, is a time to share resources and stories, and promote suicide prevention awareness; and

WHEREAS, World Suicide Prevention Day is September 10, a time to remember those affected by suicide, to raise awareness, and to focus efforts on directing treatment to those who need it most; and

WHEREAS, research shows people who are having thoughts of suicide feel relief when someone asks after them in a caring way, with findings suggesting that acknowledging and talking about suicide may reduce rather than increase suicidal ideation; and

WHEREAS, suicide is preventable, and New Jersey provides many suicide prevention resources including 988, 2nd Floor Youth Helpline, Mental Health Cares, Vet2Vet, and Cop2Cop, with the NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services annual Suicide Prevention Conference taking place this coming October 19th.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse hereby recognizes the month of September 2023 as “Suicide Prevention Awareness Month” in New Jersey.

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

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

September 19, 2023
Date