



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

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PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY
Lt. Governor

NEIL VAN ESS
Acting Chairman

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Executive Director

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the Month of September 2025 as “Suicide Prevention Awareness Month” in New Jersey

September 16, 2025

WHEREAS, The World Health Organization (WHO) and International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) are promoting the theme "Changing the Narrative on Suicide" to shift from a culture of silence to one of openness and support; and

WHEREAS, The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) encourages people to talk openly about mental health and suicide prevention, with resources provided to help individuals recognize warning signs and start life-saving conversations; and

WHEREAS, "We Are Stronger Together. Connect to Protect" is the U.S. Army's theme for Suicide Prevention Month, emphasizing the role of strong, positive relationships in countering suicide risk; and

WHEREAS, the Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) 2025 Suicide Prevention Month is “**Together in Strength, Dignity, Hope, and Purpose,**” to include key focus areas: Understanding Risk – Embracing Treatment, Hope and Resilience, Building Community Partnerships and Supports, Improving Outcomes for People at Risk for Suicide, and Promoting Dignity Through Connection; 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 Substance Use Disorder hereby recognizes the month of September 2025 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; the Governor’s Council on Mental Health Stigma, County Drug and Alcohol Directors; County Mental Health Administrators, and County Alliance Coordinators.

Neil Van Ess, Acting Chairman

September 16, 2025

Date