

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

WHEREAS, the month of September is National Suicide Prevention Month, a time in which individuals, organizations and communities around the country join their voices to amplify the message that suicide can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, according to "The 31st Annual Report on the Conditions of Children in Orange County," suicide is the second leading cause of death for children aged 10 to 14 years old; and

WHEREAS, our military veterans adjusting to civilian life often suffer from PTSD or otherwise find the transition to be challenging, leading to an increase in suicide ideation and a disproportionate number of deaths by suicide; and

WHEREAS, Orange County developed a new data dashboard featuring information on deaths by suicide created with the purpose of raising community awareness and strategic planning of county wide suicide prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS, the "988" hotline, established in 2005 for suicide prevention, offers invaluable, free, and confidential support to individuals in distress, as well as vital prevention and crisis resources for individuals 24/7; and

WHEREAS, individuals across all age groups derive significant benefits from fundamental pillars of wellness, including access to quality healthcare and behavioral support, robust social connections, and a profound sense of purpose and fulfillment; and

WHEREAS, weaving mental wellness practices into one’s daily routine improves mental well-being, thereby mitigating or averting a wide spectrum of health and behavioral challenges; and

WHEREAS, knowing the signs of suicide risk, finding the words to talk with someone who may be thinking of suicide, and reaching out to local resources are actions everyone can take to care for themselves and others; and

WHEREAS, all Orange County residents are encouraged to join in the pursuit of suicide prevention and mental health advocacy. Suicide Prevention Month presents a prime opportunity to educate and involve every individual in the community, empowering them to contribute to the cause of preventing suicide within our communities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Orange County Board of Supervisors recognize and acknowledge National Suicide Awareness Month to shed light on the rising incidence of suicides in Orange County. Through active participation and education, we can eradicate the contributing factors that fuel suicide.

Dated this fifteenth day of September 2026

Doug Chaffee
Chair, Orange County Board of Supervisors
Fourth District

Katrina Foley
Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors
Fifth District

Janet Nguyen
Supervisor, First District

Vicente Sarmiento

Donald P. Wagner

Supervisor, Second District

Supervisor, Third District