



City of St. Charles

ILLINOIS

Proclamation

September Is National Suicide Prevention + Action Month

WHEREAS, September is known around the United States as “National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month”, most of us are quite aware of suicide. **National Suicide Prevention + Action Month** is intended to help promote and give attention to the Suicide Prevention services available to us and our community. The goal is to speak openly about the topic of suicide to help erase the stigma surrounding it, and to direct those in need to the appropriate support services; and

WHEREAS, Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), more than 47,000 people died by suicide in the year 2017; and

WHEREAS, Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death among adults in the US, and nearly 20% of all suicides were completed by people ages 45-54; and

WHEREAS, **St. Charles, Illinois** is no different than any other community in the country, but chooses to publicly state and place our full support behind local educators, mental health professionals, athletic coaches, pack leaders, police officers, and parents, as partners in supporting our community in simply being available to one another; and

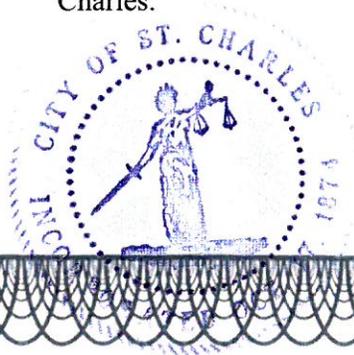
WHEREAS, Local organizations like Suicide Prevention Services (SPS), national organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and international groups like Hope For The Day (HFTD) are on the front lines of a war that many still refuse to discuss, as suicide and mental illness remain too uncomfortable of a topic to talk about; and

WHEREAS, Every member of our community should understand that throughout life’s struggles we all need the occasional reminder that we are all fighting our own battles; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all residents to take the time to check in with their family, friends, and neighbors on regular basis and to honestly communicate their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate. A simple phone call, message, handshake, or hug can go a long way towards helping someone realize that suicide is not the answer.

THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor of the City of St. Charles, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2019, as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in the City of St. Charles.

SEAL:



Raymond P. Rogina, Mayor