



Proclamation Recognizing September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Gilpin County

WHEREAS, suicide is a profound and tragic public health issue that has touched the lives of individuals, families, and entire communities, leaving lasting impacts of grief, loss, and pain; and

WHEREAS, rural Colorado continues to experience suicide at alarming rates, with contributing factors including trauma, violence, isolation, and barriers to accessing care—challenges made more urgent by stigma and limited resources; and

WHEREAS, veterans, rural residents, young people, and those in high-stress industries carry a disproportionate risk, and supporting these individuals with compassion and connection is a critical responsibility; and

WHEREAS, every person has the power to make a difference: for a child, one trusted adult can be life-changing; for an adult, being seen, heard, and supported can be life-saving; and

WHEREAS, Jefferson Center and the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Jefferson, Gilpin, and Clear Creek Counties are working to build connections, reduce barriers to care, provide mental health services in schools, medical offices, and community centers, and train everyday people through programs such as QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) to recognize warning signs and respond before a crisis becomes a tragedy; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness, reducing stigma, and fostering a culture of compassion and care are essential steps to ensure that no one struggles alone, and that all community members can access the resources and support they deserve;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Gilpin County, Colorado, hereby proclaims September 2025 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Gilpin County and urges all residents to join together in promoting hope, connection, and life-saving support for those at risk.

ADOPTED this 26th day of August, 2025.

Sandy Hollingsworth, Chair

Susan Berumen, Commissioner

Jeff Aiken, Commissioner