

*The State of New Hampshire*  
*By His Excellency*  
*Christopher T. Sununu, Governor*

*A Proclamation*

In the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty-Three

**NEW HAMPSHIRE SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK**  
**SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2023**

*WHEREAS*, in New Hampshire, suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals ages 15 to 34, and ninth leading cause of death overall; and nationally, suicide is the twelfth leading cause of death, and forty-five percent of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year while rates of suicide among Black youth are rising faster than in any other racial/ethnic group; and

*WHEREAS*, research indicates that ninety percent of people who attempt suicide do not go on to die by suicide, and their voices can play an important role in suicide prevention efforts; and

*WHEREAS*, hundreds of people, including our veterans are offered hope and compassion each day by calling the Veteran's Crisis Line/988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline; and

*WHEREAS*, the New Hampshire Suicide Prevention Plan serves as a blueprint to guide suicide prevention efforts in New Hampshire led by the legislatively established New Hampshire Suicide Prevention Council, and the Youth Suicide Prevention Assembly; and

*WHEREAS*, New Hampshire has taken important steps in preparation for the transition to the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline on July 16, 2022 including strengthening the state's long standing Lifeline center, adding a secondary lifeline center, implementing NH Rapid Response which includes statewide mobile crisis response, increasing mental health training for first responders, and building a peer workforce, along with other priority items of the 10-Year Mental Health Plan, which will reduce emergency department boarding and increase timely access to mental health treatment; and

*WHEREAS*, suicide is an important public health issue which is often preventable, and community members can help prevention efforts by reaching out to individuals who might be struggling, letting them know you care, offering hope, and connecting them with help;

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR* of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2023** as **NEW HAMPSHIRE SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK** in the State of New Hampshire, and call this to the attention of all citizens.



*IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of New Hampshire to be affixed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2023.

*Chith T. Sununu*

Christopher T. Sununu  
Governor