

PROCLAMATION
Suicide Prevention Awareness Month
September, 2020

WHEREAS, September is known in the United States as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month and is intended to help raise awareness to this serious issue; and

WHEREAS, suicide has become a state and national public health emergency that can affect anyone regardless of age, race, gender, orientation, religion or income; and

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control, 41,000 people die by suicide each year; and

WHEREAS, approximately one suicide happens every twelve minutes and suicide rates are higher in rural America than in urban America; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the ninth leading cause of all deaths in the state of New Mexico and the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 to 34; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Association of Suicidology, New Mexico is ranked third in the country with a rate of 25.6 suicides per 100,000 residents (totaling 535 suicides in 2018); and

WHEREAS, according to the International Journal of Medicine, the recent COVID-19 pandemic may lead to increased social isolation, anxiety, chronic stress, and economic hardships; and which may lead to the development or exacerbation of psychiatric disorders among vulnerable populations; and

WHEREAS, the Colfax County DWI Program and Colfax County Health Council promotes community involvement and awareness; and

WHEREAS, our program encourages all residents to take the time to inquire as to the well-being of their family, friends, and neighbors over the next few days and to genuinely convey their appreciation for their existence by any gesture they deem appropriate; and

WHEREAS, suicide is preventable, and the State of New Mexico can provide many suicide prevention resources, including the New Mexico Crisis and Access Line and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, James Neil Segotta, Jr., Mayor of the City of Raton, New Mexico on behalf of the City of Raton and the Raton City Commission recognizes and proclaims the month of September 2020 as:

*****Suicide Prevention Awareness Month*****

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal and caused the Seal of the City of Raton to be affixed this 8th day of September 2020.

ATTEST:


Michael Anne Antonucci, City Clerk

CITY OF RATON

James Neil Segotta, Jr., Mayor

