

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION & ACTION MONTH PROCLAMATION BY THE SELECT BOARD

WHEREAS: SEPTEMBER IS KNOWN GLOBALLY AS “SUICIDE PREVENTION & ACTION MONTH”, THE NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION + ACTION MONTH PROCLAMATION WAS CREATED TO RAISE THE VISIBILITY OF THE MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES AND SUICIDE PREVENTION SERVICES AVAILABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. THE GOAL IS TO START THE CONVERSATION ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH AND THE IMPACT OF SUICIDE TO HELP DESTIGMATIZE THE CONVERSATION AND HELP CONNECT PEOPLE WITH THE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT SERVICES; AND

WHEREAS: ACCORDING TO THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION (A.F.S.P.), SUICIDE IS THE 2ND LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG INDIVIDUALS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 10 AND 34 WITH MORE THAN 48,000 PEOPLE DYING BY SUICIDE ANNUALLY IN THE UNITED STATES WITH A DAILY RATE OF 132. IN 2022, MORE THAN 600 MASSACHUSETTS RESIDENTS DIED BY SUICIDE; AND

WHEREAS: EVERY SUICIDE DIRECTLY IMPACTS A MINIMUM OF 100 ADDITIONAL PEOPLE, INCLUDING FAMILY, FRIENDS, CO-WORKERS, NEIGHBORS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS; AND

WHEREAS: THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT PUBLICLY PLACES ITS FULL SUPPORT BEHIND THOSE WHO WORK IN THE FIELDS OF MENTAL HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT; AND

WHEREAS: GLOBAL ORGANIZATIONS LIKE HOPE FOR THE DAY (H.F.T.D.) AS WELL AS THE TOWN’S LOCAL MENTAL HEALTH PARTNER SERVE ON THE FRONT LINES OF A WAR THAT MANY STILL REFUSE TO DISCUSS, AS STIGMA REGARDING SUICIDE AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IS FAR TOO PREVALENT; AND

WHEREAS: WE ENCOURAGE ALL RESIDENTS TO TAKE THE TIME TO UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION AND RECOGNIZE THAT TAKING CARE OF OURSELVES AND OTHERS INCLUDES TAKING CARE OF MENTAL HEALTH.

NOW THEREFORE: ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE SELECT BOARD, WE DO HEREBY PROCLAIM SEPTEMBER 2023 AS

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION & ACTION MONTH

IN THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS AND ENCOURAGE ALL CITIZENS TO JOIN US IN THIS WORTHY OBSERVANCE.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE HAVE HEREUNTO SET OUR HANDS AND CAUSED TO BE AFFIXED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT, MASSACHUSETTS, THIS 6TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2023.

SWAMPSCOTT SELECT BOARD



DAVID GRISHMAN
CHAIR



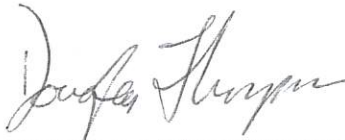
CATHERINE PHELAN
VICE-CHAIR



MARY ELLEN FLETCHER



PETER SPELLIOS



DOUGLAS THOMPSON



SEAN FITZGERALD
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

