



City of Bethel Proclamation

In Recognition of the 2018 National Suicide Prevention Week

This Proclamation recognizes suicide as a national and statewide public health problem, and suicide prevention as a national and statewide responsibility, and designates September 9 through September 15 as "National Suicide Prevention Week" in Bethel. This week overlaps World Suicide Prevention Day, September 10th, recognized internationally and supported by the World Health Organization.

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States and the 2nd leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 to 34;

WHEREAS, in the United States nearly 44,965 people die by suicide each year (Centers for Disease Control);

WHEREAS, in 2016, suicide was the 6th leading cause of death in Alaska (Centers for Disease Control);

WHEREAS, in 2016, 193 people died by suicide in Alaska (Centers for Disease Control);

WHEREAS, all of us living in the YK region are affected by the tragedy of suicide;

WHEREAS, each year 15-20 people in the YK Delta complete suicide;

WHEREAS, Alaska's rate of suicide is about double the national average;

WHEREAS, the rate in our region is almost 6 times the national average;

WHEREAS, organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and the State Suicide Prevention Council envision a world without suicide, and are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, through research, education, advocacy and resources for those who have lost or struggle, and urge that we:

1. Recognize suicide as a preventable national and state public health problem and declare suicide prevention to be a priority.
2. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities.
3. Encourage initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and Alaska Statewide Suicide Prevention Council.
4. Promote awareness that there is no single cause for suicide, and that suicide most often occurs when stressors exceed current coping abilities of someone suffering from a mental health condition.
5. Develop and implement strategies to increase access to quality mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.

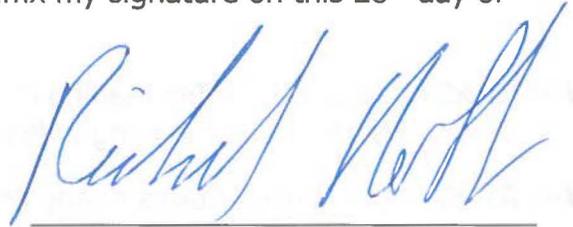
WHEREAS, Help is available:

YKHC emergency Services
Alaska Careline
Text
National Hotline
YKHC Behavioral Health
Bethel Family Clinic

543-6499, 1-844-543-6499
1-877-266-4357 (HELP)
1-907-254-7836
1-800-273-8255
543-6100
543-3773

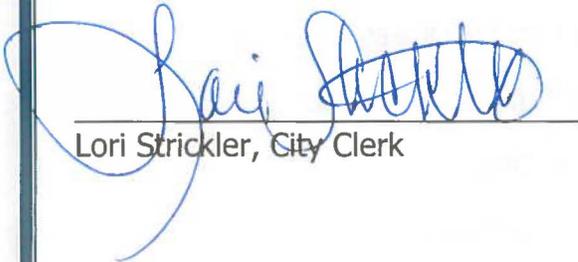
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Richard Robb, Mayor of the City of Bethel, do hereby proclaim September 9-15, 2018 as "National Suicide Prevention Week" in Bethel.

IN OFFICIAL RECOGNITION WHEREOF, I hereby affix my signature on this 28th day of August, 2018.



Richard Robb, Mayor

Attest:



Lori Strickler, City Clerk