

**Seward County Commissioners' Proclamation
for Suicide Prevention Week of September 9-15, 2018**

WHEREAS, September 10th is World Suicide Prevention Day and September 9-15th is National Suicide Prevention Week;

WHEREAS, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for 15-44 year olds among Kansans, and is the 10th leading cause of death for people of all ages in the United States;

WHEREAS, in 2016, 512 Kansans died by suicide, and several thousand friends and family members were changed forever by losing those people; as many as one in 17 Kansans struggle with thoughts of suicide;

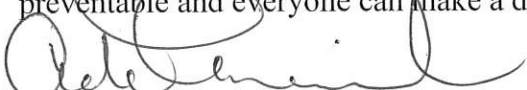
WHEREAS, many of those people who died never received effective behavioral health services, for many reasons including the difficulty of accessing services by healthcare providers trained in best practices to reduce suicide risk, the stigma of using behavioral health treatment and the stigma associated with losing a loved one to suicide;

WHEREAS, the staff of Southwest Guidance Center are committed to providing mental health services and community education to address mental health stigma and suicide awareness to all residents of Seward County regardless of mental health challenge, race, ethnicity, or socio-economic status by

1. Supporting the development of accessible behavioral health services for all 4 counties of the Southwest Guidance Center catchment area including Seward, Haskell, Stevens, and Meade Counties
2. Partnering with the Liberal Rotary Club to Promote the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255
3. Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient or appropriate for all populations or communities; and
4. Promote community mental health education and support via Mental Health First Aid, Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) and suicideTALK

WHEREAS, far too many residents of Seward County, Kansas die by suicide each year, and most of these deaths are preventable;

THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that, we, the commissioners of Seward County, Kansas, do hereby designate September 9th through 15th, 2018, as "Suicide Prevention Week" in the county of Seward, Kansas and urge Kansans to learn how they can help their friends and neighbors because suicide is preventable and everyone can make a difference.



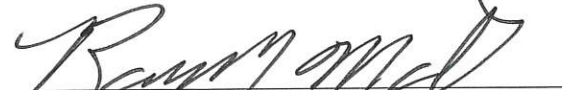
Ada J. Linenbroker, Commissioner



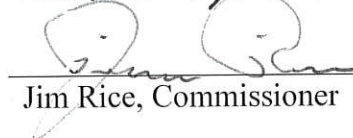
Nathan McCaffrey, Commissioner



C.J. Wettstein, Commissioner



Randy Malin, Commissioner



Jim Rice, Commissioner