

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF HUNTINGTON CITY, UTAH
PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2026 TO BE

SUICIDE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, the state of Utah has consistently been in the top states for suicide deaths since 2012 (currently 11th in the nation versus 2025 reporting of 7th); and

WHEREAS Carbon, Emery, and Grand Counties often lead the state of Utah in suicide deaths per capita; and

WHEREAS people who lose their loved one to suicide are at a 30% higher risk of ending their lives by suicide as a learned coping mechanism and learned behavior; and

WHEREAS the risk of suicide can be reduced through awareness, proper evidence-based training including safe messaging, educational resources, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's statistics, suicide is the **first** leading cause of death amongst Utahans ages 15-24 (*second in 2025*), the **second** leading cause of death amongst ages 25-34 (no change,) **second** for ages 35-44 (no change,) **fourth** for ages 45-54 (no change,) **sixth** for ages 55-64, which has the highest rate of suicide (*fourth in 2025*), and **seventeenth** for ages 65 and older (*eighteenth in 2025*); and

WHEREAS suicide has a ripple effect that affects everyone, suicide is everyone's business, talking about suicide does **NOT** plant the idea of self-harm, and suicide is one of the most preventable deaths that can be eradicated by: 1. learning the warning signs of depression and suicidal ideation, 2. knowing how and when to ask about one's suicidal thoughts, 3. being aware of life-saving measures such as safe storage of firearms and medications, and 4. familiarizing ourselves with the resources available locally such as Four Corners Community Behavioral Health, state-wide such as Live On Utah, and nationwide such as calling or texting 988 - the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Huntington City Mayor Leonard Norton, on this ____ day of August 2026, do hereby proclaim September 2026 to be

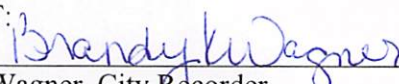
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in the City of Huntington and encourage all residents of Huntington City to recognize how serious suicide is and the steps each of us can take to protect those around us from this preventable tragedy, one with devastating generational and community-wide effects.



Leonard Norton, Mayor

ATTEST:


Brandy Wagner, City Recorder