

# PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Montana's suicide rate is the 2nd highest in the nation and has ranked among the top five states with the highest rates of suicide for the past four decades; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is a community-wide problem requiring a community effort, and since 2018 Missoula County has lost 157 Missoulians to suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide by firearm accounts for 54% of all suicides in the US and 63% of all suicides in Montana and Missoula, and guns stored in the home are used for suicide 40 times more often than for self-defense; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to support our new National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 988 Call Center here in Missoula, along with our new mobile response units who can effectively and empathetically intervene in crisis situations; and

**WHEREAS**, our community will support suicide prevention efforts to the maximum extent possible, with initiatives like Project Tomorrow Montana which works to reduce Missoula County suicide deaths and attempts through educational programs and evidence-based policy.

**NOW THEREFORE**, in coordination with National Suicide Prevention Week, I, Andrea Davis, Mayor of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, do hereby recognize the week of September 9-15, 2024 as;

## SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the great seal of the City of Missoula, in the State of Montana, to be affixed at Missoula, Montana, this 9th day of September, in the year two thousand twenty-four.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrea Davis".

Andrea Davis,  
Mayor