Proclamation
National Suicide Prevention Month
By the Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion

Whereas, September is known as National Suicide Prevention Month and is intended to help raise awareness surrounding suicide prevention resources available in the community; and

Whereas, World Suicide Prevention Day is observed each year on September 10; and

Whereas, Suicidal thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, race, orientation, income level, religion, or background; and

Whereas, according to the CDC, each year more than 48,000 people die by suicide; and

Whereas, in May 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, ED visits for suspected suicide attempts began to increase among adolescents aged 12-17 years, especially girls; and

Whereas, organizations like the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, 800-273-TALK (825) work to help individuals in crisis and provide resources to shed light on this highly stigmatized topic; and

Whereas, every year thousands of individuals die by suicide, leaving behind friends and family members to navigate the tragedy of loss. Often feelings of shame and stigma prevent them from talking openly; and

Whereas, Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) is committed to being a Zero Suicide organization and cultivate a network of providers who are engaged in the Zero Suicide philosophy.

Now Therefore, I, Chris Barnett, Supervisor of the Charter Township of Orion, along with the Oakland Community Health Network, hereby proclaims the month of September 2021 as National Suicide Prevention Month and calls upon our citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools to recommit our State to increasing awareness and understanding of suicide prevention, and the need for appropriate and accessible services to assist individuals in crisis.

Chris Barnett, Supervisor
Charter Township of Orion

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