



Gary Richard Herbert

Governor

Declaration

Whereas, suicide is a significant public health issue in Utah, with our suicide rate being consistently higher than the national average, and a recent study by the Centers for Disease Control finding that our state has the highest prevalence of suicidal thoughts among adults in the country;

Whereas, each year, on average nearly four thousand people in Utah attempt suicide, and approximately five hundred individuals die from suicide, making it the sixth leading cause of death in our state for all ages, but the second leading cause of death for people ages 10-34, and the third leading cause of death for those ages 35-44;

Whereas, the State of Utah encourages and commends the Utah Suicide Prevention Coalition and partnering agencies, as well as the Utah Department of Human Services and the Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, in their efforts to reduce the rate of suicide deaths and suicide attempts in Utah by assessing individuals' suicide risk and referring those in need to resources to help prevent, intervene, and treat causes of suicidal thoughts and suicide in order to save lives; and

Whereas, we approve of the strategies, practices, and initiatives that help reduce the number of suicide attempts and deaths in Utah, and applaud efforts to educate Utah residents about available resources to prevent suicide, as well as urge individuals and families to seek help and support when faced with this serious problem;

Now, therefore, I, Gary R. Herbert, Governor of the State of Utah, do hereby declare May 22, 2014, as

Suicide Prevention Day in Utah

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary R. Herbert".

Gary R. Herbert
Governor