

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring September as “Suicide Prevention Month” in Alachua County, Florida

- Whereas* suicide is a significant public mental health issue, and we can all work together to support and protect our community; and
- Whereas*, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 49,316 deaths by suicide during 2023; and
- Whereas*, in our country, suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for those aged 10-44, and the 11th leading cause of death for people of all ages; and
- Whereas*, 3,620 people in Florida died by suicide in 2023; it is the 8th leading cause of death in our state; and
- Whereas*, each death by suicide directly impacts numerous family members, friends, loved ones, and by extension the entire community; and
- Whereas*, culturally specific and responsive mental health services are a critical component of supporting communities; and
- Whereas*, 988 Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress; and
- Whereas*, the Alachua County Crisis Center offers 24-hour crisis intervention support through phone, face-to-face, mobile and telehealth options; and
- Whereas*, all individuals should be aware of the warning signs and feel empowered to seek help for themselves, loved ones, co-workers, friends; and
- Whereas*, we must reduce the stigma surrounding suicide, encourage the pursuit of mental health resources, and truly listen to those affected by suicide; and
- Whereas*, no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient, everyone is asked to join and take a stand to prevent suicide.

Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim September 2025 as “Suicide Prevention Month” in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 9th day of September, A.D., 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Charles S. Chestnut, IV, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. “Jess” Irby, Clerk