

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Suicide is the tenth leading cause of all deaths in the United States and the ninth leading cause of all deaths in the state of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds in the United States and the second leading cause of death for those under age 35 in the state of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, In 2015, the Helpline Center in South Dakota answered 1,786 suicide-related calls through 2-1-1 and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255); and,

*Whereas*, In the United States, one person dies by suicide every 12.3 minutes; with 42,773 deaths by suicide in our nation in 2014; and,

*Whereas*, Mental health providers in South Dakota offer mental health treatment services to individuals at risk and their families; and,

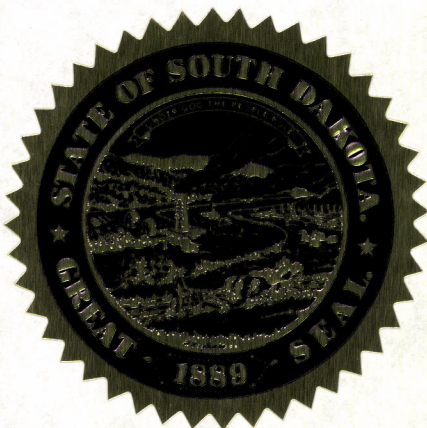
*Whereas*, Communities in South Dakota can help reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and suicidality by encourage individuals at risk to seek life-saving help; and,

*Whereas*, The South Dakota Department of Social Services is partnering with coalitions, educational institutions, and behavioral health organizations to identify, support, educate, refer, and treat youth at risk for suicide:

*Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 5 – 11, 2016, as

## *SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

*Dennis Daugaard*  
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

*Shantel Krebs*  
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State