



Grand Junction

State of Colorado

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Junction recognizes suicide as a significant public health problem, and suicide prevention as a community-wide responsibility; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of all deaths in the United States and now the 7th leading cause of deaths in Mesa County; and

WHEREAS, the national rate of suicide is 12 per 100,000 but in Mesa County the rate is 20.2 per 100,000; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 5 million people in the United States have lost a loved one to suicide; and

WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental illness and suicidality works against suicide prevention by discouraging persons at risk for suicide from seeking life-saving help and further traumatizes survivors of suicide; and

WHEREAS, a great many suicides are preventable; and

WHEREAS, the Mesa County Suicide Prevention Coalition and the Western Colorado Suicide Prevention Foundation are dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Pitts, Mayor of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2012 as

"Suicide Prevention Month"

in the City of Grand Junction and urge all citizens to encourage initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention by promoting awareness that suicide is a public health problem that is preventable .

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official Seal of the City of Grand Junction this 5th day of September, 2012.

Mayor

