

LEGISLATURE OF ERIE COUNTY  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

*Declaring September 5<sup>th</sup> through September  
11<sup>th</sup> as Suicide Prevention Week in Erie County*

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that at the regular session of the Legislature of Erie County, held in the Legislative Chambers of Old County Hall, in the City of Buffalo, on the 1st of September, a proclamation was adopted, of which the following is a true copy:

WHEREAS, suicide is an international issue, affecting everyone either directly or as someone who can bring attention and awareness to the issue; and

WHEREAS, annually, suicide claims approximately 800,000 lives worldwide, equating to a suicide about every 40 seconds, as friends and neighbors of all ages, genders, races and religion end their life entirely too soon; and

WHEREAS, suicide knows no bias when it comes to its victims, as it affects men and women alike, and in the United States, more people die by suicide each year than by homicide; and

WHEREAS, unfortunately, it can be hard to pick up on the signs of someone considering suicide, but its important to look for signs like substance abuse, hopelessness, recent loss of loved ones, unemployment, and other factors that might make someone feel down on their luck, and when we recognize these factors in someone, it is crucial to let them know that they are not alone and that they have much to live for; and

WHEREAS, experts agree that most suicidal individuals do not want to die, but rather see an end to the pain they are experiencing; and

WHEREAS, suicide prevention week is a call to action and brings involvement from governments and community organizations worldwide, urging them to contribute to the cause of suicide prevention and awareness through events, conferences, activities, and public campaigns, in the hope that if we all work together, lives will be saved.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED**, that the Erie County Legislature pause in its deliberations to declare September 5<sup>th</sup> through September 11<sup>th</sup> as Suicide Prevention Week.

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**Hon. Patrick B. Burke**  
*Erie County Legislator, 7th District*

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**Karen M. McCarthy**  
*Clerk, Erie County Legislature*