

PASSED

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

RESOLUTION) ORDER _____ / IN THE MATTER OF
AND ORDER:) PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 17, 2007 AS "SURVIVOR
07-11-7-10) OF SUICIDE DAY" IN LANE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the suicide death rate in Oregon consistently ranks in the highest tenth percentile in the nation; and

WHEREAS, suicide among youth aged 15 to 24 in Lane County is the second leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS, although the overall suicide rate in the U.S. decreased slightly in recent years, the suicide rate for those aged 15-24 has more than doubled over the past five decades; and

WHEREAS, the scourge represented by suicide not only affects our youth, but also impacts the 5 million U.S. citizens who have lost loved ones to suicide, called the survivors of suicide; and

WHEREAS, the highest suicide rate in the U.S. is among those aged 75 and older; and

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

WHEREAS, statewide and local suicide prevention efforts should be encouraged and publicized to the maximum extent possible; and

WHEREAS, organizations such as the Lane County Suicide Prevention Steering Committee, local non-profit organizations, dedicated local practitioners, the American Association of Suicidology and the National Foundation for Suicide Prevention, are committed to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths, and the resultant long-term suffering of the survivors of suicide, by means of educational programs, research projects, intervention services, and bereavement services urge that we encourage initiatives based on the goals contained in the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, including the following:

1. Recognize suicide as a national, state and local public health problem, declare suicide prevention to be a priority and acknowledge that this is a preventable health issue.
2. Develop broad-based support for suicide prevention, while acknowledging that no single suicide prevention program or effort will be appropriate for all populations or communities.
3. Encourage strategies designed to reduce the stigma associated with accessing mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.
4. Promote community-based suicide prevention programs.

5. Promote community-based suicide bereavement support services.
6. Promote efforts to reduce access to lethal means and methods of self-harm.
7. Implement training for the recognition of at-risk behavior and for the delivery of effective treatment.
8. Develop and promote effective clinical and professional practices.
9. Increase access to, and community linkages with, mental health and substance abuse services.

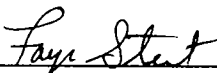
WHEREAS, the mission of the Lane County Department of Health & Human Services is to promote and protect the health and well-being of individuals, families and our communities;

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners encourage residents to work to reduce suicide in Lane County, especially among youth, by proclaiming November 17, 2007 to be "Survivors of Suicide Day"; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of County Commissioners designate that this "Survivors of Suicide Day" should also represent a time for families and members of our community to reflect on the benefits of identifying behavior that places people at-risk for suicide; and

IT IS ORDERED that the Board of County Commissioners direct the County Office of Public Information assist with efforts to impart the information contained in this Resolution to the residents of Lane County.

DATED this 7th day of November, 2007.



Faye Stewart, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 10/29/07
Lane County Staidlaw

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL