



**TOWN OF BLUFFTON
NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Whereas, during the month of September, a national health observance is dedicated to increasing awareness about suicide a serious public health issue that affects people of all ages, races, genders, and backgrounds, causing immeasurable pain among individuals, families, and communities; and

Whereas, suicide is the 12th leading cause of death overall, the second leading cause of death among young people 10-24 years of age, and the second leading cause of death for 10- to 14-year-olds; and

Whereas, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline implemented the 988 dialing code system to provide direct life-saving services for people struggling with depression or suicidal thoughts, and for anyone who is concerned about a loved one or someone they know; and

Whereas, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month provides the opportunity to educate our community about the warning signs for suicide and how to reach out and connect to those experiencing an emotional crisis; and

Whereas, World Suicide Prevention Day is observed each year on September 10 to raise awareness globally; and

Whereas, on this day of September 10, the Town of Bluffton joins LowCountry Alliance for Healthy Youth and its youth coalition, Teens for Healthy Youth, in raising awareness about suicide, a public health issue affecting all ages and races, and genders, the importance of mental health care, and supporting and encouraging those in need to seek help. You Are Not Alone!

NOW, THEREFORE I, Mayor Larry Toomer, along with Bluffton Town Council do hereby proclaim the month of September to be **Suicide Prevention Awareness Month** in the Town of Bluffton South Carolina.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Bluffton to be affixed this proclamation on the 10 day of September 2024.

Larry C. Toomer, Mayor