

# *City of Vancouver, Washington*

## **Proclamation**

- WHEREAS, Suicide Prevention Month for the City of Vancouver, Washington the City of Vancouver, Washington, in partnership with the Washington Department of Veteran Affairs, acknowledges the critical importance of addressing mental health and suicide prevention; and
- WHEREAS, September has been designated as Suicide Prevention Month, a time to emphasize the need for increased awareness, education, and support for those affected by mental health challenges; and
- WHEREAS, Open dialogue and education about suicide awareness can help reduce stigma, encourage individuals to seek help, and build a supportive community environment; and
- WHEREAS, This year's Suicide Prevention Month theme focuses on, "There is hope, don't wait. Reach out," I encourage all Vancouver residents to reach out and check on friends, family members and loved ones; and
- WHEREAS, The Washington Department of Veterans Affairs plays a crucial role in supporting our veterans and their families, providing essential resources and advocacy for mental health and suicide prevention.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anne McEnerny-Ogle, Mayor of Vancouver, Washington, do hereby proclaim September 2024 as:

### **" Suicide Prevention Month "**

in the City of Vancouver and encourage the community to join in raising awareness through community initiatives and education, encouraging open conversation, supporting veterans, and mental health resources including the 9-8-8 Suicide and Criss lifeline. In honor of those we have lost and in support of those who continue to face mental health challenges, let us work together as a community to create an environment of compassion, understanding, and hope.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Vancouver to be affixed 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2024.

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**ANNE McENERNY-OGLE, MAYOR**