



**Town of Coopertown
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**Vice-Mayor Robert Dale
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Mayor Jeff Smith

Proclamation

WHEREAS, suicide is a tremendous form of suffering and one of the most disruptive and tragic events a family and a community can experience, with more than 1,200 lives lost in Tennessee each year and an estimated 25 attempted suicides for each suicide death; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the twelfth leading cause of death in Tennessee, the third leading cause of death among youth and young adults ages of 10 to 24 as well as the fourth leading cause of death of adults ages 35-44 and the eighth leading cause of death for adults ages 45-54; and

WHEREAS, understanding the risk of suicide can be reduced through awareness, education, and treatment; and

WHEREAS, suicide prevention has been declared a state priority by Governor Bill Lee and the Tennessee Legislature; and

WHEREAS, 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals in the United States; and

WHEREAS, a Suicide Prevention Network Advisory Council has been appointed to coordinate the implementation of the Tennessee Strategy for Suicide Prevention; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network (TSPN) is a grassroots collaboration of Tennesseans and organizations working to eliminate the stigma of suicide, educate the community about the warning signs of suicide, and ultimately reduce the rate of suicide in our state; and

WHEREAS, TSPN encourages all Tennesseans to become trained and play a role in suicide prevention to support quality of life.

WHEREAS, everyone can play a role in suicide prevention by learning and sharing the risk and warning signs, decreasing the stigma as a means to promote help-seeking by talking about suicide using safe-messaging, and sharing the available resources;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeff Smith, Mayor of Coopertown Tennessee,

do hereby proclaim September 2025, as

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH

in Coopertown, Tennessee, and do urge all citizens to work to prevent suicide and to raise awareness and compassion around all people affected by this tragedy.