



# MEMORANDUM

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Date: August 27, 2021

To: Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: Sharon Bronson *Sharon Bronson*  
District 3, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

Re: Agenda Item for September 7, 2021 Meeting

Please place the following item on the Agenda for the Board of Supervisors meeting on September 7, 2021.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Proclamation stating that the Pima County Board of Supervisors, hereby proclaims the month of September 2021 as National Suicide Awareness Month.

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Southern Arizona works to support people with mental illness and their loved ones, and 46% of people who die by suicide had a diagnosed mental illness; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the 10th-leading cause of death in the United States, resulting in 45,000 deaths per year, and the second-leading cause of death for those aged 10 to 34; and

**WHEREAS**, the overall suicide rate in the United States has increased 35% since 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, in Pima County there has been a 67% increase in suicides among minors 12 to 17 and a 56% increase among adults 50 to 59; and

**WHEREAS**, the benefits of recognizing the warning signs and overcoming mental-health challenges, substance-abuse overdoses, suicide attempts and loss are significant; and

**WHEREAS**, Suicide Awareness Month is a time to raise awareness about this stigmatized and often taboo topic. In addition to shifting public perception, we use this month to spread hope and vital information to people affected by suicide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of September 2021 to be:

### **“NATIONAL SUICIDE AWARENESS MONTH”**

and encourages County residents to stand “Together for Mental Health,” increase understanding of mental illness and access mental-health resources to reduce the occurrence of suicide in our community.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 7th day of September 2021.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Julie Castañeda, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors