

*Executive Proclamation*  
*State of South Dakota*  
*Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, during Suicide Prevention Month, we join voices to renew our suicide prevention efforts to raise awareness of the help that is available. People who are experiencing thoughts of suicide can find relief when someone communicates with them in a caring way; and,

*Whereas*, people are more likely to feel less depressed, less suicidal, less overwhelmed, and more hopeful after speaking to someone who listens without judgement and helps them to realize that they are appreciated; and,

*Whereas*, if someone is thinking about suicide and they've voiced a plan, keep them safe by being present with them physically or through technology; and,

*Whereas*, we can encourage those in need to seek professional support and offer help in ways that we are able, like calling 988, the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline; and,

*Whereas*, it is important to continue to show we care by checking in on a regular basis; and,

*Whereas*, through the example of the Division of Behavioral Health's "Notes to Self" awareness campaign, we are showing South Dakotans that small acts can make a big difference in someone's journey; and,

*Whereas*, to learn more about 988 and how to support those in need, visit [SDBehavioralHealth.gov](http://SDBehavioralHealth.gov):

*Now, Therefore, I, Kristi Noem*, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 2023, as

***SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH***


in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-eighth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-Three.

  
Kristi Noem, Governor

Attest:

  
Monae L. Johnson, Secretary of State