

Proclamation for Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

2025

WHEREAS, Suicide Prevention Awareness Month is a time when the Department of Defense (DoD) brings added attention to the complex issue of suicide and emphasizes the valuable resources and support available year-round; and

WHEREAS, September was first declared as the National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in 2008. In the years since then, September has been a time to acknowledge those affected by suicide, to raise awareness, and to connect individuals with suicide ideation to treatment and support services; and

WHEREAS, Suicide Prevention is a DoD priority throughout the year. The DoD is committed to preventing suicide among Service members, veterans, and their families; and

WHEREAS, the Suicide Prevention Month theme, "We Are Stronger Together. Connect to Protect," highlights the critical role relationships and interpersonal connections to family, friends, the community, and resources can play in preventing suicide; and

WHEREAS, the Keesler Air Force Base leaders are committed to working with partners to ensure that our suicide prevention efforts align with established best practices, remain current with emerging research, and are disseminated across the installation; and

WHEREAS, we are striving to bring more awareness to Suicide Prevention and available resources, change the conversation around mental health and well-being, and turn awareness into action, know that support is within reach; and

WHEREAS, we all need to feel empowered, confident, and competent to be the ones to reach out when someone is in crisis. The suicidal state can be very complex and can make connecting to someone difficult. We can have an impact by increasing awareness and promoting the need for support. If we can connect with someone in crisis, we can help save a life; and

WHEREAS, today, we are here to honor those who are no longer with us, those suffering in silence who don't feel seen and supported, and those who are fighting moment by moment. We are fighting on your behalf; you are important to us, and your life matters; and

THEREFORE, We, the Dragons of Keesler Air Force Base, hereby proclaim September as Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. We urge everyone to commit to connectedness to others and themselves.



Christopher J. Robinson, Col, USAF
Commander, 81st Training Wing

