



# Proclamation

## Suicide Prevention Awareness Week September 10-16, 2023

**WHEREAS**, the Palo Alto City Council recognizes death by suicide as a public health problem and suicide prevention as a community responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide prevention efforts should be developed and encouraged to the maximum extent possible; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, suicide is the second leading cause of death among individuals between the ages of 10 and 34, with more than 48,000 people dying by suicide annually in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, as of May 2023, every city in Santa Clara County has formally adopted a city suicide prevention policy, increasing collaborative efforts with the County's Suicide Prevention Program and helping to bring awareness to this important issue and save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, locally we have many resources, including Project Safety Net, established in 2009; it is a collaborative community network held together by a common interest of fostering youth well-being in Palo Alto; and

**WHEREAS**, Project Safety Net coalition partners are collectively dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and the pain of survivors by promoting and providing mental health services, outreach and education, policy advocacy, and program evaluation; and

**WHEREAS**, while the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention recognizes the entire month of September as National Suicide Prevention Month, September 10<sup>th</sup> is officially World Suicide Prevention Day, established in 2003 by the International Association for Suicide Prevention in conjunction with the World Health Organization.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Lydia Kou, Mayor of the City of Palo Alto, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim the week of September 10-16, 2023 as Suicide Prevention Awareness Week.

Presented: September 11, 2023

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**Lydia Kou**  
Mayor