

1 Approved: August XX, 2022  
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4 **ANCHORAGE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION**  
5 **YAC Resolution No. 2022-9**  
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7 **A RESOLUTION OF THE ANCHORAGE MUNICIPAL YOUTH ADVISORY**  
8 **COMMISSION TO RECOGNIZE SEPTEMBER 4 – SEPTEMBER 10, 2022, AS**  
9 **NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF**  
10 **ANCHORAGE.**

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12 **WHEREAS**, the Youth Advisory Commission prioritizes increasing awareness of Mental  
13 Health and the importance that it has on Youth through the Mental Health Advocacy  
14 Program (MHAP); and,

15 **WHEREAS**, Alaska has the highest suicide rate per capita in the country; and,

16 **WHEREAS**, suicide is the leading cause of death for Youth in Alaska, and Alaska's  
17 suicide rate among Youth is three times higher than the national average; and,

18 **WHEREAS**, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have severely impacted Mental  
19 Health and have increased the suicide rate among Youth; and,

20 **WHEREAS**, more than 90% of suicide victims had depression or a diagnosable mental  
21 illness or substance abuse problems; and,

22 **WHEREAS**, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline recently changed its phone number  
23 to 988; and,

24 **WHEREAS**, the National Suicide Prevention Week has been held in the United States  
25 since 1975. National Suicide Prevention Week is held in correspondence to World  
26 Suicide Prevention Day which is recognized on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September; and,

27 **WHEREAS**, organizations such as You Are Not Alone (YANA), a youth-led group help  
28 to empower youth to appropriately care for and educate each other about suicide  
29 prevention, through increasing awareness of suicide in our community and schools.

30 ***Now, therefore by the Youth Advisory Commission, be it resolved:***

31 *1. The Mayor should consider the following steps:*

- 32 *a. Recognize and establish September 4 – September 10, 2022, as*  
33 *National Suicide Prevention Week in Anchorage.*