# City of Annapolis



# **Proclamation**

WHEREAS, suicide is a major public health issue that affects individuals, families, and communities nationwide, causing immeasurable pain and suffering; and WHEREAS. the City of Annapolis is committed to increasing awareness of suicide prevention, fostering understanding and support for those who struggle with mental health challenges, and promoting community-wide efforts to address this critical issue; and WHEREAS, the stigma associated with mental health conditions and seeking help often prevents individuals from receiving the support they need, emphasizing the importance of creating an open and supportive environment; and WHEREAS, National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month is observed every September to raise awareness, educate the public, and provide resources to those affected by suicide, with the goal of reducing the incidence of suicide through prevention efforts; and WHEREAS, organizations such as Black People Die By Suicide Too and local mental health services play vital roles in providing resources, support, and education to prevent suicide and assist those affected by it; and WHEREAS, it is essential to encourage community involvement and support for those who are struggling with mental health challenges, to promote mental well-being, and to ensure that everyone has access to the help they need; and WHEREAS, every member of our community can contribute to the prevention of suicide by being aware of the warning signs, offering support, and fostering a culture of empathy and understanding; WHEREAS, the City of Annapolis recognizes the importance of raising awareness about mental health and the need to

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN BUCKLEY, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND DO HEREBY PROCLAIM

reduce stigma associated with mental illness;

#### September as

## **National Suicide Prevention**

### **Awareness Month**

#### IN THE CITY OF ANNAPOLIS

I encourage all residents to recognize the importance of mental health, to support those who are struggling, and to work together to prevent suicide in our community.



Gavin Buckley, Mayor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto Set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the City of Annapolis to be affixed this 1<sup>st</sup> Day of September in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-four.