



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

### **NLGA Consensus Resolution Promoting Suicide Awareness and Prevention**

**WHEREAS**, suicides in the U.S. hit a historic high in 2022, driven by an increase in suicide among older adults,<sup>i</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, a suicide occurs every 11 minutes<sup>ii</sup> and it is estimated that each suicide impacts up to 135 individuals,<sup>iii</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is an issue that does not discriminate and suicide prevention and access to crisis intervention services are bipartisan issues, and

**WHEREAS**, 9-8-8 launched in July 2022, providing local, customized support and nationally standardized best practices through its network of local crisis centers, and

**WHEREAS**, four million people contacted 9-8-8 in its first year, and even with a 40% increase in call, text and chat volume in year one, wait times decreased from almost three minutes to less than a minute,<sup>iv</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, only one in four Americans is aware of the availability of 9-8-8,<sup>v</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, all persons in crisis require timely access to effective crisis services to address mental health emergencies.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) commits to efforts to increase awareness of 9-8-8 and its services.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA will join in World Suicide Prevention Day on the 10<sup>th</sup> of September every year and join in recognizing each September as National Suicide Prevention Month.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA will join in recognizing each May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

**ADOPTED**, this day, the 1<sup>st</sup> of August, 2024.

Co-Sponsors: Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman

*Proposed for the docket by:* Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman

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<sup>i</sup> "Suicides in US Hit Historic High," LA Times, <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2023-11-29/suicides-in-u-s-reached-new-high-in-2022>

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ii “2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention” web site, <https://www.hhs.gov/programs/prevention-and-wellness/mental-health-substance-abuse/national-strategy-suicide-prevention/index.html>

iii “How many people are affected by one suicide,” centre for suicide prevention, <https://www.suicideinfo.ca/how-many-people-are-affected-by-one-suicide/>

iv “Impact Of The 988 Suicide And Crisis Lifeline: One Year Later,” Forbes, July 25, 2023, <https://www.forbes.com/sites/nicoleroberths/2023/07/25/impact-of-the-988-suicide-and-crisis-lifeline-one-year-later/?sh=79fef75136d8>

v “A Year Since 9-8-8 Launched, Here’s What Experts Want to See Next, PBS, July 16, 2023, <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/988-hotline-helped-millions-in-its-first-year-heres-how-advocates-say-it-could-reach-more>