



# *Proclamation*

## *Presented to the*

### **Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Task Force**

**WHEREAS**, suicide is one of the most tragic events a family and community can experience, and is the tenth leading cause of deaths nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, suicide is the leading cause of death among Hawai'i residents ages 15 to 24. Someone in Hawai'i dies of suicide every two days, with more than 880 lives lost to suicide statewide between 2012 and 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 90 percent of those who die by suicide have a diagnosable and treatable mental health condition which often goes unrecognized; and

**WHEREAS**, the stigma associated with mental illness and suicidal behavior can be eliminated through public awareness and education; and

**WHEREAS**, the Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Task Force is a partnership of state, public, and private agencies and community groups working collaboratively to provide leadership, develop strategies, coordinate activities, and monitor progress of suicide prevention efforts in the State of Hawai'i; and

**WHEREAS**, Hawai'i's multi-pronged suicide prevention strategy includes educating the public about resources for individuals at risk; training professional and community members on how to identify, support and refer individuals at risk; and implementing policies that institutionalize suicide prevention training in clinical and school settings; and

**WHEREAS**, the 2016 Hawai'i State Legislature passed House Concurrent Resolution 66 that mandated the formation of a subcommittee of the Prevent Suicide Hawai'i Task Force to develop a strategic plan to reduce suicides in Hawai'i by 25 percent by 2025;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i,** do hereby proclaim September 10 - 16, 2017 as

## **"SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK"**

In Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to help raise awareness of local and national mental health and suicide prevention resources available to our communities and encourage all those in need to seek the care and treatment necessary for a long and healthy life.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this eighth day of September 2017.

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i