

City of Gainesville, Florida

Office of Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan

#061193

04/23/07

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, currently more than 30,000 suicides occur nationwide annually; in Florida, 2,308 suicides were reported in 2005, with suicide being the 9th leading cause of death; and

WHEREAS, Florida has the 3rd highest number of suicides in the nation, two times the number of suicides than homicides, with more law enforcement officers dying by suicide than in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, suicide ranks third as a cause of death among young (15-24) Americans behind accidents and homicide; and

WHEREAS, there are no official statistics on attempted suicide, although it is generally estimated that there are at least 8 to 25 attempts for each death by suicide; and

WHEREAS, suicide is one of the most disruptive and tragic events a family and a community can experience; the stigma associated with mental illness works against suicide prevention; and

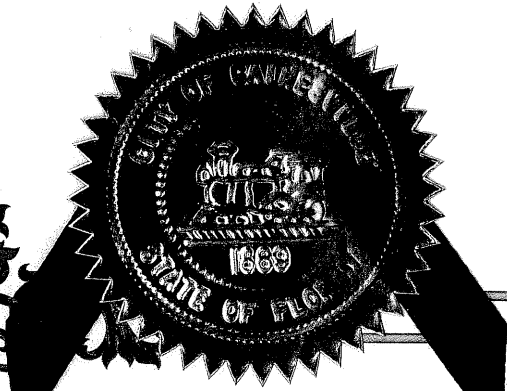
WHEREAS, although one in six Americans suffers from depression, this illness remains hidden, and the stigma associated with suicide further traumatizes those people who lose a loved one by suicide.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pegeen Hanrahan, by the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Gainesville, do hereby proclaim April 25, 2007 as

Suicide Prevention Day

in the City of Gainesville and invite all our citizens to join me in promoting education and awareness for suicide prevention, and by becoming aware, discussing and working to prevent depression and suicide.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Gainesville, Florida, this fifth day of April, A.D., 2007.



Pegeen Hanrahan
Pegeen Hanrahan
Mayor