

1 Introduced September 9, 2014, by  
2 Councilman Caruso, seconded by  
3 Councilwoman Harbison

4 **RESOLUTION R14-27**

5 A resolution in support of 40th Annual National Suicide Prevention Week

6 WHEREAS, in the United States, one person dies by suicide every 13.3  
7  
8 minutes, with 39,518 deaths by suicide in our country during 2011; and

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10 WHEREAS, in our country, suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for 15-24  
11  
12 year olds, and is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death for people of all ages; and

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14 WHEREAS, in 2013, 32 completed suicides occurred in St. Tammany Parish  
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16 with 14 of those completed suicides occurring in East St. Tammany Parish; and

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18 WHEREAS, as of July 2014, this year has seen 21 completed suicides in St.  
19  
20 Tammany parish with 7 of those completed suicides occurring in East St. Tammany  
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22 Parish; and hundreds of friends and family members were changed forever by losing these  
23  
24 people; and

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26 WHEREAS, local advocacy organizations such as the St. Tammany  
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28 Outreach for the Prevention of Suicide (STOPS) – continue to recognize National Suicide  
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30 Prevention Week as a valuable tool to provide community education programs in an effort  
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32 to lower suicide rates in St. Tammany Parish as well as to address the pain of loss of a  
33  
34 loved one to suicide; and

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36 WHEREAS, the St. Tammany Parish affiliate of the National Alliance on  
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38 Mental Illness (NAMI) recognizes that, mental illness is a highly treatable medical illness  
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40 requiring the same concern as other illnesses; NAMI further recognizes that suicide is all  
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42 too often the tragic outcome for individuals living with mental illness and/or mental trauma

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2 **RESOLUTION R14-27**  
3 **PAGE 2**

4 who did not receive adequate mental health services, for many reasons including difficulty  
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6 accessing services and the stigma associated with having mental illness; and

7 WHEREAS, the City of Slidell recognizes that suicide is a significant public  
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9 health issue with prevention as a priority and encourages initiatives based on the priority of  
10  
11 prevention.

12 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Slidell City Council in legal  
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14 session convened, hereby designates September 8<sup>th</sup> through September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014, as  
15  
16 Suicide Prevention Week in the City of Slidell, and hereby urges all of our citizens to learn  
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18 all that they can about suicide prevention and about how they can become involved in  
19  
20 helping to prevent suicides in our community and elsewhere.

21 **ADOPTED** this 9th day of September, 2014.

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24 Kim Harbison  
25 President of the Council  
26 Councilwoman-at-Large

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28 Thomas P. Reeves  
29 Council Administrator

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32 CONCUR: 

33 Freddy Drennan  
34 Mayor  
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