



MEDIA RELEASE

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Mayor Jacobs to Recognize National Suicide Prevention Month

KNOXVILLE, Tenn.— Knox County will observe National Suicide Prevention Month throughout September to continue efforts to increase the awareness and understanding of suicide and mental health in our community.

National Suicide Prevention Month is a time when mental health advocates, survivors, supporters, and the community join to promote suicide prevention awareness.

During the month, World Suicide Prevention Day is September 10 and National Suicide Prevention Week runs Sept. 5 through Sept. 11 this year. Both are a time to share resources and stories and remember those affected by suicide while focusing efforts on directing treatment to those who need it most.

“Suicide is the ninth leading cause of all deaths in the state and the tenth leading cause of death in this community,” said Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs. “Even worse, is that it is one of the most common causes of death for 10- to 34-year-olds. It’s incredibly tragic.”

Next Wednesday, the Mayor will highlight the Renew Clinic as part of his business series. The Renew Clinic, located on Western Avenue, is an intensive outpatient treatment center that strives to be both Biblically rooted and clinically effective in an effort to restore individuals affected by substance misuse.

A three-part public service announcement series will then run each of the following Wednesdays in place of the business series. The first PSA will focus on how underlying conditions are treatable, the second highlights steps to take during a crisis, and the third touches on the resources available to help.

On Sept. 23, the Mayor, in conjunction with Knox County Commission and the Mental Health Association of East Tennessee, will make an important announcement about annual reporting of mental health in Knox County.

“One of the best things to come out of the last couple of years has been people’s willingness to talk openly about mental health and ways to get help,” said Mayor Jacobs. “The most important step in saving lives is reducing the stigma that surrounds talking about how we feel and what we need.”

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