

Proclamation

Whereas, mental illnesses are common in the United States, affecting one in two Americans every year; and

Whereas, research consistently demonstrates that 90% of those who die by suicide suffered with a diagnosable mental illness and/or substance abuse disorder at the time of their death; and

Whereas, 571 Minnesotan's died by suicide in 2007, more than who died by homicides, DWIs, and HIV/AIDS combined; and

Whereas, the mission of SAVE is to prevent suicide through public awareness and education, reduce stigma and serve as a resource to those touched by suicide; and

Whereas, for 20 years (1989-2009) SAVE has been a Minnesota based, national non-profit agency; and

Whereas, since 1992 SAVE has documented over 350,000 million exposures of their national public awareness campaign to prevent suicide; and

Whereas, in 2008 SAVE had over 2 million hits on the its website from 152 countries; distributed 24,600 pieces of material to those in need at no cost; and in the last 3 years educated over 144,000 youth, adults and professionals in Minnesota; and

Whereas, demonstrating their expertise and leadership last year developed 1 of only 3 government endorsed Best Practice suicide prevention programs called LEADS: for Youth; and

Whereas, SAVE deserves to be honored and recognized for two decades of work preventing suicide and improving the lives of countless Minnesota citizens.

NOW THEREFORE, I Mayor R.T. Rybak hereby recognize Friday, May 1st, 2009 as

SAVE Day



Mayor of Minneapolis

