

## **PROCLAMATION**

**A PROCLAMATION** by the Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, declaring the week of Sunday, May 6 through Saturday, May 12, as National Suicide Awareness Week and Saturday, May 12, as Suicide Awareness Day.

**WHEREAS**, Approximately 3,200 people in the United States die by suicide annually; and

**WHEREAS**, There are 4.5 million people affected by the loss of a loved one to suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, There are 775,000 suicide attempts in the United States annually; and

**WHEREAS**, More people die from suicide than from homicide or AIDS in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, The suicide rate for the State of Washington is ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Kitsap County's suicide rate is higher than the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, There were 47 suicides in Kitsap County in 1999, averaging 1 death approximately every 7.7 days; and

**WHEREAS**, There were 18 suicides in the 35 to 44 age group of Kitsap County in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, There were 2 suicides on Bainbridge Island in 1999; and

**WHEREAS**, There are an estimated 16 attempted suicides for each completed suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, Suicide is the eighth leading cause of death for all Americans and is the third leading cause of death for young people ages 15 to 24; and

**WHEREAS**, Most people who complete suicide suffer from depression, which is a treatable mental disorder; and

**WHEREAS**, Eighty percent of people who complete suicide give some warning of their intention; and

**WHEREAS**, Educating our community is a key to decreasing this unnecessary tragedy; and

**WHEREAS**, Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, is National Suicide Awareness Week; now, therefore

I, Dwight Sutton, Mayor of the City of Bainbridge Island, Washington, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 12, 2001 to be

**Suicide Awareness Day  
In the City of Bainbridge Island**

Signed by the Mayor this 13<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2001.

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Dwight Sutton, Mayor