MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK WITHIN COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP

SEPTEMBER 6 – 12, 2026

WHEREAS, suicide is a national and statewide public health problem, and suicide prevention is a national and statewide responsibility; and

WHEREAS, suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in the United States, the 2nd leading cause of death among ages 15 – 34; and

WHEREAS, each person's death by suicide intimately affects at least six other people; and

WHEREAS, many of the people who died never received effective behavioral health services for many reasons including the difficulty of accessing services by healthcare providers trained to reduce suicide risk, the stigma of using behavioral health treatment, and the stigma associated with losing a loved one to suicide; and

WHEREAS, representatives of behavioral health organizations, State and local agencies, military/veterans' organizations, educational institutions, and the community dedicated to reducing the frequency of suicide attempts and deaths; the pain for those affected by suicide deaths through research projects, educational programs, intervention services, and bereavement services urge all to:

- Recognize suicide as a significant public health problem; know the risk factors, behavioral changes, and warning signs and seek immediate assistance from a health or mental health care provider; and
- Support the development of accessible behavioral health services for all, implementing best practices in reducing suicide risk for people of all ages and backgrounds; and
- Acknowledge that no single suicide prevention effort will be sufficient or appropriate for all populations or communities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, I, Michael Viola, Mayor of Colts Neck Township, along with the entire Township Committee, do hereby proclaim September 6-12, 2026 as Suicide Prevention Week within Colts Neck Township and urge all residents to become aware and involved.

Michael Viola
Mayor

Kathleen Capristo
Municipal Clerk

September 9, 2026

MAYOR'S PROCLAMATION

KNOCK OUT OPIOID ABUSE DAY WITHIN COLTS NECK TOWNSHIP

OCTOBER 6, 2026

WHEREAS, Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day is a vital moment for New Jersey to come together and confront the opioid crisis head-on; and

WHEREAS, in 2023, there were 2,564 suspected overdose deaths in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey has designated October 6, 2026 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day; and

WHEREAS, this initiative has a dual purpose:

(1) To educate residents of the addictive qualities of opioid pain medicines and their link to heroin abuse rates in New Jersey; and

(2) To seek outreach to physicians for safer prescribing messages found in the Centers for Disease Control and prevention guidelines for prescribing opiates, which include considering other therapies, setting realistic treatment goals and discussing the pros and cons of opioids with patients.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, I, Michael Viola, Mayor of Colts Neck Township, together with the entire Colts Neck Township Committee, do hereby recognize and proclaim October 6, 2026 as Knock Out Opioid Abuse Day within Colts Neck Township and encourage all residents to participate in and support initiatives designed to raise awareness about opioid abuse in New Jersey.

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Michael Viola
Mayor

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Kathleen Capristo
Municipal Clerk

September 9, 2026