

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Greene County Suicide Prevention Network and Christian County Suicide Prevention Network Host Suicide Awareness Walk for a Life

September 23rd, 2023: The Greene County Suicide Prevention Network and the Christian County Suicide Prevention Network will be hosting the Suicide Awareness Walk for a Life, a community-wide event to support individuals who have experienced a mental health challenge or have lost a loved one to suicide. The event will take place on September 23rd from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at OTC Richwood Valley Campus (3369 West Jackson St. Nixa, MO 65714).

In Missouri, over 1,200 died by suicide in 2022 (CDC, 2022). Missouri has the 19th highest suicide rate in the nation (CDC, 2021) and the suicide rates are consistently higher than those in the United States.

This event unites those who have been impacted by suicide. The purpose of this event is to help support the mission of the Greene and Christian County Suicide Prevention Networks in providing awareness and hope to reduce suicide in Southwest Missouri. There will be a Remembrance Wall and we encourage those who know someone who has died by suicide to bring a photograph so that we may honor their memory. There is no registration and no cost of admission to this event. Light refreshments will be served, and resource tables will be present, providing information about suicide prevention and mental health promotion.

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ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS

The mission of Community Partnership of the Ozarks is to facilitate and promote the building of resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programming and resource development. For more information on the Partnership's collaborative efforts and programs, visit <u>www.cpozarks.org</u>.

The Greene County Suicide Prevention Network and the Christian County Suicide Prevention Network are a network of organizations that work together to help decrease the prevalence of suicide and related risks in Greene and Christian County. Each network focuses on increasing community awareness of the prevalence of suicide and related risks in Greene and Christian Counties. Each network builds community support for preventing suicide, and coordinates opportunities for involvement in suicide prevention efforts. These include presentations and training, and decreasing access to lethal means for suicide.