

Cedar Rapids Community Suicide Awareness Walk

Dear Friends and Community Leaders,

In 2018, more than 48,000 people in the United States died by suicide. It is estimated that for every completed suicide there are 25 attempts. Suicide is a continuing and growing national health crisis that affects people and families right here in Linn County. In 2018, there were 15.4 deaths by suicide for every 100,000 people in Iowa. Right here in Linn County, there were 42 reported suicide deaths in 2019.

The HOPEwalk is a community event to remember those lost and raise awareness and funds for suicide prevention through Honoring, Openness, Prevention, and Education. Funds raised stay local to support suicide prevention initiatives in and around Linn County.

This fall, we will be holding the 7th annual HOPEwalk on Saturday, September 26th, 2020 as a virtual event to help with this important cause. Although we are unable to be together in-person that day, we hope that participants can still honor those lost and share hope together, but apart. We are planning on a virtual opening ceremony and speaker and will encourage participants to walk on their own that day to honor their loved ones.

With the funds from the 2019 walk we have continued to support a local support group for youth who have lost someone to suicide and continued to supply information packets for families who have lost a loved one to suicide. We provided Foundation2 with a Day of Services Grant for the cost to run the Foundation2 crisis center for one day. We sponsored two grants to raise awareness; a banner for the Foundation2 building and a tealight grant to the Linn County Suicide Prevention Coalition for World Suicide Prevention Awareness Day. We also helped sponsor the Beyond: Teens Moving Forward Presentation at Washington High School that brought Kevin Hines back to Cedar Rapids. We were also able to give a grant to the Green Bandana Project for local high schools. We also help sponsor Unity Point's Current Trends in Mental Health that brought Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas (an international mental health and suicide prevention speaker and author) to Cedar Rapids.

While we recognize COVID-19 is impacting many facets of our lives, we hope hosting our event virtually will continue our mission, especially in this trying time. If you are able, donations to the HOPEwalk can be made through our website, hopewalk-cr.com, or mailed to the HOPEwalk, P.O. Box 2684, Cedar Rapids, IA. 52401. If you have any questions please e-mail us at CR.HOPEwalk@gmail.com.

Sincerely, HOPEwalk 2020 Committee

Thank you for your support of suicide awareness and prevention!

The HOPEwalk is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax deductible. #47-4285391



2020 SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

Sponsors will be recognized on the HOPEwalk Facebook page and website. By signing below, you authorize the HOPEwalk to include your corporate name and logo as an event sponsor.

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Agreement	and Logo Due by September 1	0, 2020

Please E-mail Your Logo to CR.HOPEwalk@gmail.com (if applicable) The HOPEwalk is a registered 501(c)3 organization. Donations are tax deductible. #47-4285391

> Please E-mail or Mail Agreement and Payment to: **HOPE**walk ATTN: Megan Johnson P0 Box 2684 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406 CR.HOPEwalk@gmail.com

Thank you for your support of suicide awareness and prevention!

