

5 **AN AMENDED RESOLUTION**
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7 Giving support to the Milwaukee Mental Health Board to provide funding for the "We
8 Can Save Lives Tour," which provides suicide prevention training in Wisconsin
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10 WHEREAS, the mental health crisis in Wisconsin has reached alarming levels,
11 with suicide being the second leading cause of death for teens and young adults; and
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13 WHEREAS, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors is dedicated to improving
14 the mental health of the residents of the County; and
15

16 ~~WHEREAS, Friendship Circle of Wisconsin established U_Matter in 2021 to~~
17 ~~address this crisis through suicide prevention and mental health programming,~~
18 ~~fostering safety, inclusion, and connection within the community; and~~
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20 ~~WHEREAS, Friendship Circle personnel are certified SafeTALK trainers and~~
21 ~~have successfully conducted workshops for community members; and~~
22

23 ~~WHEREAS, SafeTALK is a nationally recognized, evidence-based training~~
24 ~~program developed by LivingWorks that certifies participants as suicide-alert~~
25 ~~helpers, equipping them with essential skills to intervene and save lives; and~~
26

27 ~~WHEREAS, the "We Can Save Lives Tour," a SafeTALK Suicide Prevention~~
28 ~~Training Tour across Wisconsin, is dedicated to training 1,000 individuals at no~~
29 ~~cost to participants in memory of Alderman Jonathan Brostoff, who passed away~~
30 ~~at the age of 41, and aims to address the urgent need for suicide prevention~~
31 ~~awareness and training in our communities; and~~
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33 ~~WHEREAS, funding for the "We Can Save Lives Tour" from the Milwaukee~~
34 ~~County Department of Health and Human services would provide up to four~~
35 ~~SafeTALK suicide prevention trainings and two teen support groups, as well as~~
36 ~~providing support for related community work that The Friendship Circle does in~~
37 ~~Milwaukee County; and~~
38

39 ~~WHEREAS, collaboration with Milwaukee County Behavioral Health~~
40 ~~Services will amplify the reach and impact of The Friendship Circle's U_Matter~~
41 ~~programming, fostering critical support networks and enhancing community~~
42 ~~resilience in addressing the mental health crisis; and~~
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44 WHEREAS, investing in programming and resources for suicide prevention
45 saves lives and improves the mental health of those involved and raises the well-
46 being for all residents in Milwaukee County; and

47
48 **WHEREAS, suicide prevention training has many benefits for those who**
49 **receive it, including building empathy, recognizing early warning signs,**
50 **increasing communication skills, and reducing stigma; and**
51

52 **WHEREAS, there is a National Suicide Prevention Lifeline available by**
53 **calling or texting 988 to provide anyone in need with access to trained crisis**
54 **counselors; and**
55

56 WHEREAS, the Mental Health Board has the exclusive authority to fund and
57 legislate matters of mental health according to Wisconsin Act 203; and
58

59 WHEREAS, the Committee on Health Equity, Human Needs, and Strategic
60 Planning, at its meeting of January 23, 2025, recommended adoption of File No. 25-117
61 as amended (vote 4-1); now, therefore,
62

63 BE IT RESOLVED, that the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors requests the
64 Milwaukee County Mental Health Board to consider funding ~~in the amount of \$150,000~~
65 ~~for the “We Can Save Lives Tour” and related programming and resources~~
66 **suicide prevention programs and resources.**
67

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69 01/23/25
70 S:\Committees\2025\January-February\HEHNSP Jan 23\Resolutions\25-117 Amended MHB Prevention
71 Training.docx