



NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK, WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY AND ARMY SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

The Army joins our Nation in observing National Suicide Prevention Week during 5 -11 September 2010, and World Suicide Prevention Day on 10 September 2010. The Army will expand its observance to the entire month of September with "Shoulder to Shoulder: I will Never Quit on Life" as our theme for this year.

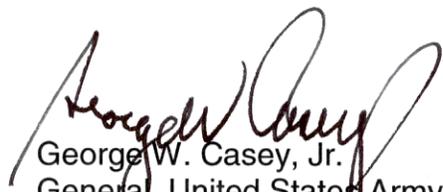
Suicide is one of the most tragic and unsettling events Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, Families, the Army and the community can experience. One suicide is too many as suicide is a preventable cause of death. Public awareness and education of this problem along with treatment for suicide-related risk factors are the keys to preventing and reducing any further loss of life.

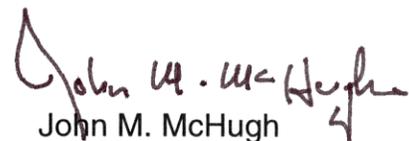
As a commitment to excellence in suicide prevention and intervention, the Army has implemented the Army Campaign Plan for Health Promotion, Risk Reduction and Suicide Prevention and the Comprehensive Soldier Fitness Program. Additionally, the Army has implemented the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resiliency in Servicemembers to address the comprehensive well-being for Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Families.

Every Soldier, Department of the Army Civilian and Family member must play an integral role in preventing suicide. The Army is working to eliminate the stigma of suicide and to educate Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Families about the risk factors and warning signs to reduce the rate of suicide in the Army. Every Noncommissioned Officer, first-line supervisor, Department of the Army Civilian and commander must have the moral courage to act and get the Soldier in crisis the help they need.

We urge all Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and Families to work together to prevent suicide and to raise their own awareness of tools and resources available to assist with preventing this tragedy. Together, we can make a difference.


Kenneth O. Preston
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General, United States Army
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