



Borough of Woodland Park

Office of the Mayor

Keith Kazmark
Mayor

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Dear Fellow Mayor,

In 2016, the Borough of Woodland Park suffered five tragic suicides in our town. In response, our community came together and formed the Woodland Park Stigma Free Task Force to bring awareness to mental health, which is all too often ignored.

On Saturday, May 15, 2021, Woodland Park will play host to a powerful and eye-opening exhibit entitled "In Their Shoes," brought to us by Attitudes in Reverse. This display brings awareness to the difficult subject of suicide. Suicide rates among our youth are at an all-time high, and we will not be bashful about opening a dialogue about mental health here in our community. It may just save a life.

We hope to make this display a regional event and that is why we are extending an invitation to you and your entire community to join us. Please see the enclosed flyer and consider sharing this to assist us in spreading the word about this important exhibit.

Should you have any questions, please always feel free to contact me.

Best Regards,

Keith Kazmark
Mayor

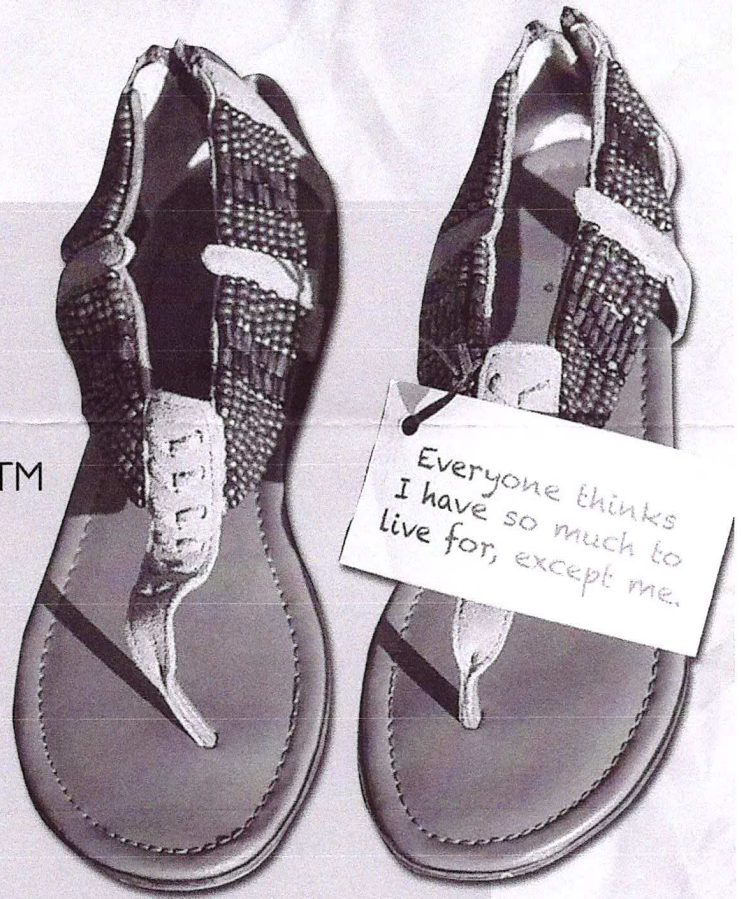
**WOODLAND
PARK
PROUD TO BE
STIGMA-FREE**

"The power of seeing all those empty shoes stops you in your tracks and sends a message that serves as an invaluable tool in the efforts to prevent suicide."

– Jennifer Velez, Esq., NJDHS Commissioner Retired

Unless you have walked
**IN THEIR
SHOES**™

you would never know the overwhelming feeling of sadness, anxiety and hopelessness that causes hundreds of young people to end their lives.



The exhibit consists of 277 pairs of shoes to represent the New Jersey youth, ages 10 through 24, who lost hope and ended their lives in the years 2014-2016.* Most of these people - 196 - were young men. This exhibit lets young people know that they are not alone in their struggles and encourages them to seek help. In addition, the IN THEIR SHOES™ exhibit increases understanding, empathy and kindness towards those who might be struggling in silence.

Please join us on **Saturday, May 15th**, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to experience the powerful IN THEIR SHOES™ exhibit. The exhibit will be on display at **Dowling Gardens** (2 Dowling Parkway, Woodland Park, NJ 07424). Rain Date: Saturday, June 6, 2021.



Join us for the
**Coming Up
for AIR™**
mental health
education and
suicide
prevention
presentation

www.air.ngo

* Source: 2018 New Jersey Youth Suicide Report

The Attitudes In Reverse In Their Shoes™ exhibit was brought to you through the support of:
Woodland Park Range & Woodland Park Stigma-Free Task Force

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RANGE**
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