## STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Arizona is home to over 500,000 service members and veterans, as well as their spouses, children, significant others and family members, totaling nearly 20 percent of Arizona's population; and

**WHEREAS,** Arizona's Be Connected program is nationally recognized as a best and promising practice for upstream prevention with a robust ecosystem that supports all service members, veterans, their family members, helpers, organizations and communities statewide; and

**WHEREAS,** Arizona's faith-based community network can play a key role in the reduction of deaths by suicide by increasing a sense of belonging and reducing a sense of burdensomeness; and

**WHEREAS,** Arizona's faith community will, in turn, benefit from the increased involvement of these highly valued members of their communities; and

WHEREAS, The Be Connected: Faith Network is a collaboration of the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith & Family, Arizona Department of Veterans' Services and Arizona Coalition for Military Families, with support and partnership of organizations such as the United States Department of Veterans Affairs, Franciscan Renewal Center, Arizona Trauma Informed Faith Community, Military Missions Network, Cru Military Ministries and Be Connected partner organizations across the state; and

**WHEREAS,** Arizonans should be encouraged to engage and promote opportunities for service members, veterans and their families, who have given so much while serving our state and Nation.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim June 9, 2021 as

## BE CONNECTED: FAITH NETWORK DAY

LOCK STATE OF US

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

GOVERNOR

**DONE** at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Twentieth day of May in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth.

ATTEST:

SECRETARY OF STATE