

Mental Health and Wellness Resource Guide

A resource guide to complement the Signs of Suicide Prevention Program in your school.

Do You Know How to ACT?



ACKNOWLEDGE what you or your friends are feeling.



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Show them how much you CARE by listening and taking their concerns seriously.

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TELL a trusted adult so they can help you and your friend.

If You Need to Talk...

Montgomery County Hotline 301-738-2255 (texting available 8:00 a.m. to midnight, every day)

Online Chat Every-mind.org/chat

School Supports

Counseling Office

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Pupil Personnel Worker

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School Information

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Mental Health

Mental health difficulties do not affect only adults. Children, teenagers, and young adults also can experience mental health difficulties. Three out of four people with mental health difficulties showed signs before they were 24 years old and one in five children is diagnosed with a mental health disorder (Centers for Disease Control, 2018).

Are you having trouble doing the things you like to do or need to do because of how you feel—like going to school, work, or hanging out with friends? Are you having a rough day? Have you been feeling down for a while?

Talk to your parents, guardians, or a trusted adult if you or your friends have experienced ANY of these things:

- Trouble eating or sleeping
- Difficulty performing daily tasks, like going to school or class
- Not wanting to hang out with friends or family
- Not wanting to do things you usually enjoy
- Fighting a lot with family and friends
- Feeling like you cannot control your emotions
- Having trouble with your relationships with family and friends
- Having low or no energy
- Feeling hopeless
- Feeling numb or like nothing matters
- Continually thinking about certain things or memories
- Feeling confused, forgetful, edgy, angry, upset, worried or scared
- Changes in mood or behavior, either positive or negative
- Wanting to harm yourself or others
- Smoking, drinking, or using otherdrugs

Everyone goes through tough times, and no matter how long you have had something on your mind, it is important that you talk to someone about it.

Hotline and Crisis Resources

You Can Talk with Someone 24 Hours a Day by Telephone or Chat Services

(Services are free and confidential)

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255

Montgomery County Crisis Center

1301 Piccard Drive, Rockville, 240-777-4000

The Crisis Center provides crisis services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. These services are available by telephone or in person on a walk-in basis. Mobile Crisis Outreach will respond anywhere in Montgomery County to conduct emergency evaluations. **No appointment needed.**

Online Resources

The Montgomery County BtheOne suicide awareness and substance use prevention campaign website describes action steps to help oneself and friends and includes links to resources and hotlines.

www.BtheOne.org.

National Association of School Psychologists provides information and resources related to mental health, coping, tips for families and schools to support grieving students, suicide awareness, among other topics.

www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources.

EveryMind, 1000 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20851, 301-424-0656, info@Every-Mind.org, provides mental health services to youth, adults, and the military, as well as crisis support services.

The Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide family resource webpage includes information on warning signs, how to support your child who needs help, and how to talk with your children about mental health, suicide awareness, and the aftermath following a tragic loss. www.sptsusa.org/parents.

The Trevor Project is a national organization focusing on suicide prevention and crisis intervention, particularly for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth. The website includes information and resources, as well as Trevor lifelines, chats, and texts.

www.thetrevorproject.org.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has information fact sheets on the prevalence and public health issue of suicide, warning signs, and resources. www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide factsheeta.pdf.

The Dougy Center's National Center for Grieving Children and Families provides resources, by age group, and information on support groups for youth, adults, and families experiencing grief following a death.

www.dougy.org/grief-resources/talking-with-children-about-tragic-events.

Ms. Ruschelle Reuben
Associate Superintendent
Student and Family Support and Engagement
Office of Teaching, Learning, and Schools

Visit Student and Family Support and Engagement on the web:

<u>www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/stud</u> <u>entservices/</u>