## SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

With September being National Suicide Prevention Month and start of a new school year, now is the perfect time to remind ourselves of some common risk factors and warning signs of suicide.

	RISK FACTORS	WARNING SIGNS
ese se our ireness! •	History of struggles with mental health and/or exposure to trauma Exposure to suicide of a close friend or loved one Past attempts or verbalizations Struggles with substance use Access to firearms	<ul> <li>Major changes in behavior or mood</li> <li>Giving away valued possessions</li> <li>Talking or writing about suicide (includes joking or making off-hand remarks)</li> <li>Expressing frequent hopelessness</li> <li>Engaging in very risky behaviors</li> </ul>
	Visit <u>www.cdc.gov/suic</u> extensive list of risk	

# What should you do if you're worried someone is having thoughts of suicide?

### DO

- Remain calm and ask them directly -"Are you thinking about suicide?" don't worry, you won't put the idea in their head!
- Listen and express empathy
- Reflect and validate their feelings
- Assure them there is help
- Take action!

## DON'T

- Don't attempt to problem solve
- Don't minimize how they are feeling
- Don't promise confidentiality
- Don't leave them alone - either stay with them or bring them to be with someone they know, trust, and feel safe with

#### **HELP IS OUT THERE!**



#### CRISIS TEXT LINE

#### Text HELLO to 741741 Free, 24/7, Confidential

A "Crisis" doesn't just mean suicide: it's any painful emotion for which you need support: Bullying • School Stress • Depression • Anxiety • Suicide Relationships • Friendships • Family Problems • Self-Harm Crisis Text Line serves anyone, in any type of crisis, providing access to a trained counselor for support and information via the medium people already use and trust: text.

AllianceforSafeKids.org

(ASK)



The Trevor Project offers 24/7 crisis support for LGBTQ+, including online chat and text options. Learn more at TheTrevorProject.org

#YouveGotOptions