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	 Major changes in behavior or mood Giving away valued possessions Talking or writing about suicide (includes joking or making off-hand remarks) Expressing frequent hopelessness Engaging in very risky behaviors
	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