



Center Update

April 2018

The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes County • 2285 Benden • Wooster, OH 44691

SIGNS OF SUICIDE PROGRAM REACHES AREA STUDENTS

Suicide prevention efforts have been increased locally through the Signs of Suicide (SOS) program and other evidence-based programs. The SOS program trains students to recognize signs of depression and suicide risk in their peers and trains them to ACT: **A**cknowledge (tell your peer what signs you notice), **C**are (protect friends' safety rather than keeping risks as a secret), **T**ell/**T**ake (make sure the student and information about their risk factors is brought to an adult). This program can include depression screening, with individual follow-up sessions and parent contacts, to facilitate appropriate referrals for services.

In Wayne and Holmes Counties, Jim Foley, LISW-S, Director of Community Education and Prevention, with the help of a grant through the Mental Health and Recovery Board, is implementing this training, screening, and referral program to several school districts during the spring semester. Participating districts include Norwayne, West Holmes, Dalton, Northwestern, Wooster, Chippewa, and Smithville. Another suicide prevention program for the general community, Question-Persuade-Refer, also offered with the help of MHRB funding, is available as well. If you are interested in training to support suicide prevention efforts, please contact Jim at jfoley@ccwhc.org.

COUNSELING CENTER STAFF RESPOND TO EDGEWOOD TRAGEDY

On February 16, staff were called in to Edgewood Middle School following the tragic death of a student. Our staff response included not only crisis staff, but also counseling staff, children's services staff, administrators and others. Staff helped both students and teachers deal with the waves of news and reaction, and helped individuals and groups of students and staff manage their feelings. The Counseling Center staff response continued into the weekend at the school and local churches and the following week at the boys and Girls Club, which is housed at Edgewood Middle School.

Phone: 330-264-9029 • Fax: 330-263-7251

Check out our website at: www.ccwhc.org

The Counseling Center is supported by the Mental Health & Recovery Board, United Way, insurance, grants and patient fees