

Lakeview Center



BAPTIST HEALTH CARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September is Suicide Prevention Month

Pensacola, Fla. (August 28, 2019) – Suicide Prevention Month is observed in September and strategies are underway to help raise awareness and prevention in our community.

- A national crisis text line (text GULF to 741741) provides a way for people in crisis to reach out for help. A person on the other end is ready to help with any crisis. Individual texts are confidential. Use of the keyword “GULF” identifies texts from our region providing aggregate data to help us better serve our community.
- The EscaRosa Suicide Prevention Coalition works to promote and coordinate suicide prevention in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties, with a long-term goal of reducing the suicide rate and its impact in our community. The coalition is comprised of local entities such as Lakeview Center, Pensacola State College, the University of West Florida, Santa Rosa Health Department, Pensacola Police Department, Santa Rosa Sheriff’s Office, Baptist Hospital, Sacred Heart Hospital, West Florida Hospital, CDAC, Escambia County EMS, Naval Air Station Pensacola Fleet and Family Support Center, the Vet Center, the Veteran’s Administration, Santa Rosa District Schools, Escambia District Schools, Department of Children and Families and various other community groups.
- The Lakeview Center Mobile Response Team (MRT) partners with hospitals and other community providers to deliver 24/7 professional mental health support to anyone experiencing a crisis. MRT will respond within 60 minutes via telephone triage or face-to-face, and they will provide 72-hour aftercare services to ensure the person is linked to appropriate support services. (Part of the service is helping a person who is expressing suicidal thoughts. However, someone should call 911 if a person has taken action toward attempting suicide.)

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) the suicide rate in the U.S. increased 33 percent from 1999 to 2017. Additionally, the death rate for suicide among teens ages 10 to 19 years old increased by 56 percent between 2007 and 2016. We encourage community support by knowing about resources:

- Always dial 911 if you are involved in a suicide crisis situation.
- Text the Crisis Text Line using the keyword “GULF” to 741741.
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800.273.8255
- Trevor Project Lifeline – Saving Young LGBTQ Lives 866.488.7386
- The Veterans Crisis Line 888.640.5443
- Lakeview Center 24-hour helpline 850.433.7273 or Victim Services Team 850.469.3800

CONTACT BELOW IS FOR MEDIA USE ONLY

For more information about this press release or to schedule an interview, please contact Tish Pennewill at 850.469.3621 or Tish.Pennewill@bhcpns.org.

About Lakeview Center, Inc. Behavioral Health

The Mission of Lakeview Behavioral Health is to help people throughout life’s journey. We specialize in providing effective, research-based services for children and adults with mental illnesses, drug and alcohol dependencies, and intellectual disabilities. Our services range from inpatient and residential treatment to outpatient counseling, psychiatry, case management, day treatment, and round-the-clock support for those with serious mental illnesses. Additionally, Lakeview Behavioral Health provides specialized trauma services, medication-assisted treatment for opiate dependency, and medically supervised drug and alcohol detoxification. In all, Lakeview Behavioral Health offers more than 60 programs and services for people in the northwest Florida area. To learn more, go online to eLakeviewCenter.org.

Lakeview Center Inc. • Behavioral Health • Vocational Services • Child Protective Services

###