



The goals of this program are:

- **Provide educators with tools** and language to become “safe adults” with a knowledge of how to respond if a child discloses thoughts of suicidality or self-harm
- **Implement parent workshops** to educate about the signs of depression and suicide and increase preparedness to face a mental health crisis
- **Design and implement school policies** to respond to student mental health crises with evidence-based knowledge and practice
- **Implement student workshops** in classrooms to decrease suicide and suicide attempts by increasing student knowledge and adaptive attitudes about depression
- **Encourage personal help-seeking** and/or help-seeking on behalf of a friend
- **Reduce the stigma of mental illness** and acknowledge the importance of seeking help or treatment
- **Engage parents and school staff** as partners in prevention through “gatekeeper” education
- **Encourage schools** to develop community-based partnerships to support student mental health through providing a JFCS-provided therapist to work with students as they experience mental health diagnoses and other adversities related to depression and suicidality

S.O.S Signs of Suicide

Jewish Family and Children’s Services of Greater Philadelphia (JFCS) is offering a *fully-funded* Suicide Prevention Program that fulfills all ACT 71 requirements and utilizes an evidence-based platform to engage educators, parents, and students in an effort to reduce suicidality in students from middle school through high school (age 11-18). This program will fully fund your school to implement Signs of Suicide (S.O.S), a universal, school-based prevention program designed for middle school (ages 11-13) and high school (ages 13-17) students.

Through video and guided discussion, students learn to identify warning signs of suicide and depression in a single class period. At the end of the session, students complete a seven-question screening for depression (anonymous or signed — the school can decide) to further encourage help-seeking and connect students at risk with trusted adults. The curriculum raises awareness about behavioral health and encourages students to ACT (Acknowledge, Care, Tell) when worried about themselves or their peers. Schools can purchase a program license through MindWise Innovations (formerly Screening for Mental Health, Inc.).

For more information, contact Carly Chodosh at 267.804.5880 or cchodosh@jfcsphilly.org or call 866.JFCS.NOW



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JFCS partners with The Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia