

## South Carolina – Youth Suicide

### Statistical Impact



#### According to the latest CDC's WISQARS National Data Reporting (2015):

- ❖ Suicide is the 2<sup>nd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 10-14 in South Carolina.
- ❖ Suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for ages 12-18 (middle and high school ages) in South Carolina.
- ❖ Suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading cause of death for college-age youth ages 18-22 in South Carolina.
- ❖ When examined as an age group 10-24 comparison, suicide is the 3<sup>rd</sup> leading overall cause of death for South Carolina. In South Carolina, every 3.9 days on an average a young person (ages 10-24) is lost to this “Silent Epidemic” of youth suicide.

#### South Carolina 2015 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey (CDC): (Most Recent Released Report)

#### **When young people were asked in South Carolina:**

- ***“Have you experienced the feeling of hopelessness and sadness for a constant period of two weeks or greater during the past twelve months (possible beginning of clinical depression)?”***  
29.9% answered YES or almost 1 out of every 3 young people  
Compared to Nationally – 29.9% (depression is a leading cause of suicide)  
This equates to 97,374 youth in the state that will have these feelings in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you seriously considered suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
17.3% answered YES or over 1 out of every 6 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 17.7%  
This equates to 56,340 youth in the state that will consider suicide in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you made a plan to commit suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
14.7% answered YES or over 1 out of every 7 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 14.6%  
This equates to 47,873 youth in the state that will make a plan *if nothing is done differently.*
- ***“Have you attempted suicide in the past twelve months?”***  
11% answered YES or almost 1 out of every 9 young people.  
Compared to Nationally – 8.6%  
This equates to 35,823 youth in the state that will make an attempt in the next 12 months *if nothing is done differently.*  
This is an average of 98 per day.

**\*Projected using the National and State 2015 YRBS and the  
State 2013-14 School Population for Grades 7-12**

**“Let’s Do Something Differently...”**