TEEN SUICIDE PREVENTION
El Paso County Public Health

Youth suicide is complex and requires the community work together to address personal, family and community factors that can lead to suicide.

El Paso County Public Health is focused on three key strategies to prevent youth suicide:

▲ Increase communication among youth-serving agencies when a youth is identified as at-risk for suicide to improve coordination of services.

▼ Reduce the stigma of behavioral health conditions, such as depression or anxiety, in order to increase help-seeking behavior among youth.

▲ Increase routine depression screenings in primary care and public health settings to identify youth at-risk for suicide and refer them to appropriate treatments.

A work group comprised of more than 60 multidisciplinary partner agencies meets monthly to discuss suicide prevention, assess what prevention activities are currently happening in the community, and create action plans to develop a system of care and inter-agency communication for youth at-risk for suicide.

The number of suicides among youth under age 18 in El Paso County has increased in recent years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Suicides</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>13</td>
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Suicide is the leading cause of death for youth ages 10 to 17 in Colorado.

If you or someone you know is in need of support, please contact Colorado Crisis Services with any questions or concerns. Counselors can talk to you about relationship problems, depression, bullying, your family, substance abuse, stress, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts.

1-844-493-TALK (8255) | text “TALK” to 38255 | coloradocrisisservices.org

To get involved, contact:

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