

OUR HALLWAYS, THEIR LIVES

Youth are impacted in many ways during their high school years. In these pivotable times students have more influence over their peers than they realize. This influence has the potential to save a life.

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Statistics/Data

- According to Healthresearchfunding.org, suicide is the third leading cause of death for the 12-18 age demographic.
- The suicide rate in Louisiana is 14.29%, which is above the national average of 12.39%, according to Longleaf Hospital.
- The CDC recorded a 40 year high suicide rate in 15-19 year old girls and a 30% increase in boys
- More teens die from suicide than from cancer, heart-disease, AIDS, birth defects, strokes, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lungs disease combined.
- From teendepression.org, **1 in 5 teens** have thought about suicide, **1 in 6 teens** have made plans for suicide, and **1 in 12** have attempted suicide per year.

Recommendations

- Improve "Big Brother, Big Sister" program.
- School-based prevention program (train students to identify at-risk suicidal behavior)
- After school social hour to make every student feel like they have a place to go
- Implement school-based mental health services. Have a separate councilor available for students who feel like they need someone to discuss their problems to and may not be able to afford outside counseling.