



BE KIND FOR EVERYONE YOU MEET IS FIGHTING A HARD BATTLE

PROTECTING YOUR CHILD WHEN THEY ARE SUICIDAL

The time period in which a youth progresses from suicidal thoughts to a suicide attempt can often be very brief; as brief as a few minutes. One thing you can do to help keep your child safe if you are concerned they may be thinking about suicide is to limit their access to anything in your home that may result in injury or death if used in a suicide attempt.

SINCE 2009, 70% OF ALL SUICIDE DEATHS IN CAMPBELL COUNTY HAVE OCCURRED WITH A FIREARM
100% OF SUICIDE DEATHS OF YOUTH 18 OR UNDER IN THAT SAME TIME PERIOD HAVE OCCURRED WITH A FIREARM

Because of this, it is important that we talk about restricting a young person's access to firearms and other potentially dangerous items in the home during times of increased risk.

This includes but is not limited to:

- > *locking up or removing all firearms from the home,*
- > *applying trigger locks to all firearms,*
- > *changing combinations or hiding keys to gun safes,*
- > *storing ammunition separately from firearms,*
- > *removing a key component of the firearm (bolt or firing pin),*
- > *securing all medications,*
- > *disposing of old or expired medications,*
- > *limiting access to knives, sharp instruments, ropes or means of suffocation, and household chemicals/poisons.*

Suicide attempts are often times impulsive and without rational thought, so it is not enough to assume that a child who has had firearm safety training won't use a firearm in a suicide attempt. Suicide attempts with a firearm have an 85-90% fatality rate, leaving very little opportunity for rescue or survival from the attempt.

SAFETY KITS THAT INCLUDE TRIGGER LOCKS, PILL-BOTTLE LOCKING CAPS, AND MEDICATION DISPOSAL UNITS ARE AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE THROUGH THE GILLETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND CAMPBELL COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO HELP "SUICIDE PROOF" THE HOMES OF PEOPLE THAT MAY BE AT RISK OF SUICIDE.



Teaching Effectively..... Learning Successfully



Suicide Prevention Coalition

Campbellcountyprevention.org