



Did you know?

Each year thousands of children and adolescents across the nation require emergency medical services for psychiatric crises. In many cases a person thinking of suicide will visit a doctor in the months or weeks before their deaths. This is an opportunity for intervention that can possibly save the patient's life.

Suicide is devastating to the family structure. Suicide can also be devastating and upsetting to the individual's physician. The physician may even question his/her treatment decisions or abilities to work with patients who have a mental illness.

Physicians and nurses may be the first and last medical contacts.

Remember:

Never be reluctant to get involved and **always** take any child/adolescent's desire or intent to harm themselves seriously.

www.jasonfoundation.com

 **The Jason Foundation**

Did you know?

Suicide is the **THIRD** leading cause of death for ages 10-24. In 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that, across the nation, more than 395,000 visits were made to hospital emergency rooms as a result of self-harming behaviors.

Signs of Concern:

- Depression or feelings of loneliness
- Suicidal threats
- Alcohol or drug abuse
- A family history of abuse, suicide, or violence
- Social isolation
- Previous suicide attempts
- Recent grief or losses
- Stress over school, relationships, performance expectations, etc.
- Increased physical complaints frequently associated with emotional distress such as stomach aches, headaches, and fatigue

Approximately 80% of teens who attempt suicide give clear warning signs before the attempt. In many cases a person with suicidal ideation will often visit a primary care provider in the months or weeks prior to his or her death.



Keeping More Than Dreams Alive