

Self-Harm & Suicide Prevention

CAREGIVER: PREP FOR DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

Heloise Ridley, MBA, MA http://ParentandFamilySupport.com

The Hurting Child or Youth Might Say:

"I don't want to be here anymore" "I'm going to kill myself," "I wish I were dead" or "I wish I hadn't been born" "I am sick of life... I have had enough"

Adapted from a Resourceful Website: See It-Say It (From Minnesota Institute of Public Health) https://www.perimeter.org/pages/add-l-ministries/care-counseling/mental-health-suicide-prevention/

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Options for Caregiver to Say in Response:

►I care....

> I see.... (describe what you see or noticed)

> I feel....(use a feeling word like <u>worried</u>, <u>concerned</u>)

>I'm listening... what is going on now for you?

> Have you been thinking of suicide / hurting yourself?

We need you to... (talk with someone else /or/ involve your parents /or/ talk to the school counselor, etc.) How do you feel about that?

How can I support you and.....go with you / make an appointment / give you a ride / call you tonight?

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