## **Support for Family and Friends of Suicide Attempt Survivors**

Compiled by Suicide Prevention Coalition of Jefferson, Clear Creek, and Gilpin Counties

When someone in your life attempts suicide, it can be a traumatic event for everyone.

You do not need to walk this journey alone. This packet was developed by professionals and survivors to provide guidance in locating information, professionals, and individuals who can help.

Reach out to friends.

Reach out to your support.

Just reach out.

You may feel a range of emotions from anxiety and shame to anger and confusion, or anything in between. Know that whatever you are feeling is normal.

All emotions, are normal.

Our hope is the information compiled will assist you, and those around you, in finding exactly what is needed during this time and in the future.



# **Resources for Family and Friends of Suicide Attempt Survivors**

The following phone, online, and in-person resources have been compiled through numerous community organizations by the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties to bring comprehensive support to those who are supporting individuals who have survived a suicide attempt.

## 24/7 Phone Resources

#### **Trans Lifeline**

1-877-565-8860

Trans Lifeline is a trans-led organization that connects trans people to the community, support, and resources they need to survive and thrive.

#### **Colorado Crisis Services**

1-844-493-TALK (8255) Text TALK to 38255

Provides free, confidential, professional and immediate support through a crisis counselor or peer specialist for any mental health, substance use or emotional concern.

#### **Trevor Project**

1-866-488-7386 Text START to 678678

Crisis intervention and suicide prevention lifeline for LGBTQ young people feeling suicidal, or in need of a safe and judgment-free place to talk.

#### **Veterans Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255 (press 1) Text 838255

Reach caring, qualified responders with the Department of Veterans Affairs. Many of them are Veterans themselves.

#### **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline**

1-800-273-8255 Crisis Text Line Text HOME to 741741

Provides free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

### Nacional de Prevención del Suicidio

1-888-628-9454

Lifeline ofrece 24/7, gratuito servicios en español, no es necesario hablar ingles si usted necesita ayuda.

## **In-Person Resources**

#### **Colorado Crisis Services**

4643 Wadsworth Blvd. Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 844-493-8255

The Walk-in Crisis Center is open 24/7 and offers confidential, inperson crisis support, information and referrals to anyone in need

www.coloradocrisisservices.org

#### Jefferson Center

Various Colorado Locations within Jefferson, Gilpin and Clear Creek Counties 303)-425-0300

Offers programs and services to foster recovery and resilience in children, adults and families struggling with mental health problems; including a suicide attempt survivor support group for adults. Please ask about all of our available services when scheduling an initial intake appointment.

www.jcmh.org

#### **The Hope Group**

P.O. Box 22 Littleton, CO 80160 720-745-9252

Organization provides service in the field of suicide prevention, intervention and postvention peer support. Contact to learn more about support groups, workshops and trainings.

www.hope-group.org

### **Support Groups**

The NAMI Family Support Group is an important resource for families who have a loved one with a mental illness. Knowing that others have had the same experience is a relief to families who have seldom spoken about mental illness to neighbors, friends, or often, even relatives. Through the NAMI Family Support Groups, you will find a network of friends who care and understand; Ideas that help you take care of yourself and your family; and a chance to share your experience and learn from others who have been there.

\*Please contact to confirm date, time, location and cost. Some groups are meeting virtually during COVID-19 distancing.\*

#### NAMI JeffCo- Wheat Ridge

Wheat Ridge, CO
Second and Fourth Wednesday
of the month
7:00pm to 8:30 pm
Contact: Linda Porter at
303-330-5305
ljporter@q.com

#### NAMI JeffCo- Evergreen

Evergreen, CO
Second and Fourth Thursday
of the month
6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
Contact Rachel Richardson at
303-521-3367

#### NAMI JeffCo- Littleton

Littleton, CO
First and Third Thursday of
the month
6:30 to 8:30 pm
Contact: Cheri Bishop
303-518-1289

More information about support groups available at <a href="www.namicolorado.org">www.namicolorado.org</a> and <a href="www.na

## **Online Resources**

After an Attempt: A Guide for Taking
Care of Your Family Member after
Treatment in the Emergency
Department

This SAMHSA brochure available to download at <a href="store.samhsa.org">store.samhsa.org</a> provides information and resources on how to take care of yourself and your family member following a suicide attempt.

How to Talk to a Child about a Suicide

Attempt in Your Family

Rocky Mountain MIRECC provides resources in English and Spanish on how to talk to youth about a suicide attempt in the family available for download at <a href="https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/products.asp">www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/education/products.asp</a>

#### As a person supporting a suicide attempt survivor, take care of yourself!

Self-care is different for everyone, so be sure to take care of yourself in whatever way is best for you! Remember that you can't take care of someone else, unless you have taken care of yourself.

## Family and Friends of Suicide Attempt Survivors: Offering Support

You want to support your friend or family member who has survived a suicide attempt, but maybe you're not sure how. These tips may help you understand how to start offering support, but please remember everyone is different.

The following information has been compiled through several resources by the Suicide Prevention Coalition of Jefferson, Clear Creek and Gilpin Counties.

You can ask the your friend or family member how they're feeling.

It's okay if you don't know what to say.

Don't be afraid to say the word "suicide."

Talking about a suicide attempt is challenging in many ways, but also important.

Thoughts of suicide are isolating—connection helps.

Different types of support work for different people. Your friend or family member is still going to have bad days sometimes.

Ask your friend or family member about their safety plan.
You might be part of it.

Do not place judgement, make assumptions, or assign blame.

Don't give up or lose contact.

Ask what your friend or family member needs, but accept it may take awhile before they know.

Learn about available support resources.

#### As a person supporting a survivor, take care of yourself!

Self-care is different for everyone, so be sure to take care of yourself in whatever way is best for you! Remember that you can't take care of someone else unless you have taken care of yourself.