## Self-Injury & Suicide: When & How Educators Should Intervene

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## Dose Activation & Regulation

https://www.youtube.co m/watch?v=I9dEyR4pu TQ

Multitaskers be like...



# -Who is here?-Who is not here?-Who should be here?











#### Why this is important How to take care of you What you can do

-NSSI and Suicide Prevention/Intervention/Postvention







#### Associations are powerful

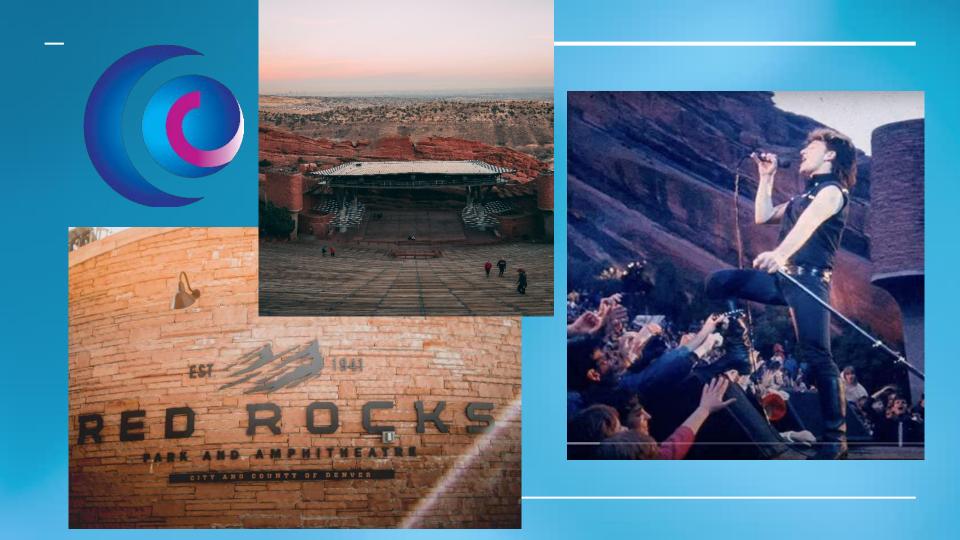






















#### Associations are powerful









## IT'S NOT ALL BAD!!!









## IT'S NOT ALL BAD!!!



## RADICAL ACCEPTANCE



I can't change what happened but I can do something with it....hold hope or find those who can.

#### <u>YOU</u> ARE THE INTERVENTION



https://www.tiktok.com/@overtime/video/6775276891 587759365?lang=en



#### https://www.youtube.c om/watch?v=qsEsgp3 H7CU



### **Emotional Burnout**

- Tired or Fatigued
- Loss of Motivation
- Withdrawal
- Loss of Enjoyment
- Apathy
- Substance Abuse
- Bottled up emotions
- Loss of sense of purpose

You can't really love someone else unless you really love yourself first. -Mr. Rogers



# The Cure For Burnout (hint: it isn't self-care)

Complete the stress cycle Connection is key Care for self (sleep) Create mindfulness techniques that work for you!



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PrJAX-iQ-O4 (8.14)

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, the state of children and teens' mental health since the pandemic qualifies as a national emergency. - AAAP

Mental health among students overall continues to worsen with 40% of high school students showing signs of depression. -CDC

Teen girls who say they have thought about suicide increased 50% in last decade. -CDC More than 1 in 5 LGBTQ teens reported they had attemped suicide during the past year. -CDC

Highest risk groups for suicide: white men 45-55, 85+, American Indian men and Alaskan Native men, and second cause of death for youth (10 - 24). -CDC/SAMSA





Suicide rates have increased after two years Of decline. (increases in populations since 2018) Black children and youth (10-24) saw highest increase.



Crisis fosters community cohesion
 Individuals become more externally focused
 Community suffering makes personal suffering more tolerable.

-Maria A. Oquendo Presendint of the American Foundation for Suicide Prrevention (AFSP)



#### 1)Crisis fosters community cohesion

"I felt like I wasn't alone anymore."



#### LONELY

Connected by our disconnection ...briefly...

#### **Loneliness declared an epidemic**

Loneliness in the U.S. poses health risks as deadly as smoking up to 15 cigarettes daily.

About half of U.S. adults say they've experienced loneliness.

The loneliness epidemic is hitting young people, ages 15 to 24, especially hard. The age group reported a 70% drop in time spent with friends.

Technology has rapidly exacerbated the loneliness problem. People using social media for two hours or more daily were more than twice as likely to report feeling socially isolated than those who were on such apps for less than 30 minutes a day.

Before COVID Americans have been less engaged with worship houses, community organizations and even their own family members in recent decades.

The number of single households has also doubled over the last 60 years.

The crisis worsened when COVID-19 spread, prompting schools and workplaces to shut their doors and sending millions of Americans to isolate at home away from relatives or friends..







2) Individuals become more externally focused. (Focus on others!)

"By focusing my attention on the outside world during the pandemic, I realized and came to accept that I could not control what was going to happen next."

-Is this an appropriate assessment of what is in my control?-What is in my control?



3)Community suffering makes personal suffering more tolerable.

Whatever was going to happen probably <u>wasn't going to be my fault</u>; it was happening to most or all of us.

-Reduce burden thinking -Get out of the hole





## I've accepted this chapter of my life as part of my journey, but I will not all it to define my journey. -Megan Thee Stallion

(Move to empowerment) (Regulate)



The surgeon general is calling on workplaces, schools, technology companies, community organizations, parents and other people to make changes that will boost the country's connectedness.



#### 1) Join community groups

2)Put down phones when you are talking to people
3)Employers should think carefully about remote work policies
4)Health systems need to provide training for doctors to recognize the health risks of loneliness. (racism, marginalized pop., access)

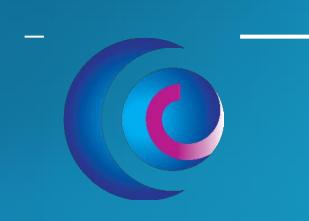
#### **Definitions & Prevalence**

Rates have increased 60% worldwide in last 45 years for people ages 15 to 44

Four or more ACES increases risk of suicide up to 12 times

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death for all Americans with youth suicides increasing at the greatest rate. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for adolescents and young adults aged 15 to 24

Suicide attempts are 20 times more frequent then deaths by suicide and children wattempt suicide are 6 times more likely to attempt again in adolescence





## https://www.youtube.com/watch ?v=S4sfbciCr24



Non-Suicidal Self-Injury (NSSI):

"The intentional direct injuring of body tissue most often done without suicidal intention.

-Nock

# Prevalence

\* More common with mental health challenges such as depression, anxiety, eating or substance problems, but 15 to 20% don't meet criteria for mental health disorders

\* People who engage in self-injury report being more sensitive to interpersonal stress or conflict, and have more difficulty expressing and regulating their emotions

\* More common among adolescents and young adults who identify as gay, bisexual or transgendered -ISSS



# Prevalence

Most common in adolescents and young adults with
 17 - 18% of young people reporting they have engaged at
 least once in their lives

\*SI most commonly begins between the ages 12 to 15. Declines and upticks.

\*Onset before 12 is associated with more severe SI over a longer period of time

\*Girls and women slightly more then boys and men -ISSS

# Prevalence

-isolation from peers -disconnected -racism, laws impacting transgendered youth -shootings -lack of outlets -burdon thinking -lack of resilience -truncated tool box - inability to cope -young kids



-difference between Suicidal thinking/NSSI As coping tools

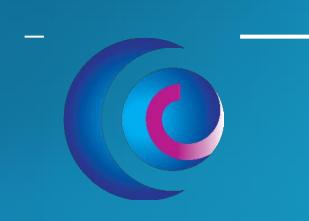


#### Why???

## Why Do People Choose NSSI?

"People either do not understand their feelings or they are unable to communicate them." (intrinsic trauma)

"NSSI falls on a spectrum...on one end kids are unable to regulate emotion and on the other...they don't feel anything and self-injure to feel something." -Nock





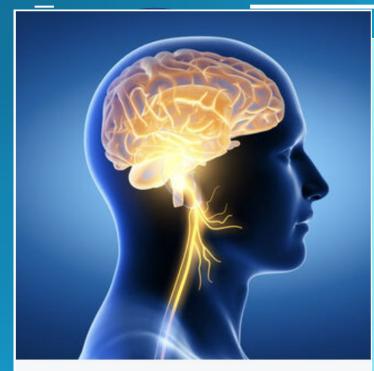
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### **Internalizers & Externalizers**

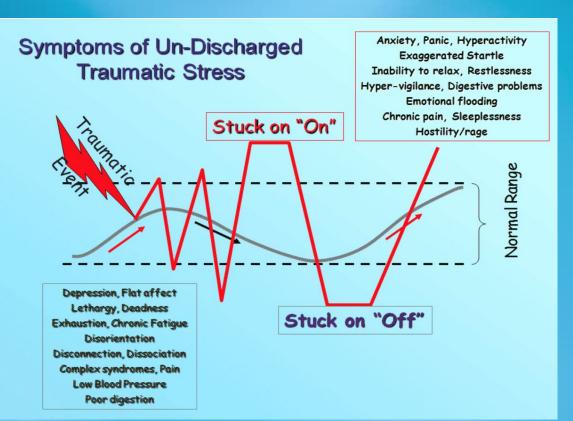






3D illustration showing brain and active vagus nerve (tenth cranial nerve or CN X)

Source: Axel\_Kock/Shutterstock









Trauma disrupts the function of the vagus nerve(s) and can lead to dysfunction in other parts of our body. Damage or displacement of the vagal nuclei may cause changes in the baroreceptor and chemoreceptor reflexes. Much interest lately has been placed on the brain-gut axis via communication through the vagus nerve.Apr 28, 2022

# Increase Arousal- Replacement Behaviors

Hair-Tie Method Holding Ice Cold Water Method **Knotted Towel Method Big Red Method Clay Method Dance Method** Smell essential oils Exercise Shower head



#### Decrease Arousal-Replacement Behaviors Color Method Deep Breathing Mindfulness

Deep Breathing Mindfulness Weighted Blanket Touch Points Music Method Relaxation Techniques Guided Meditation Warm Water Method Lavender - water - breathe



Lavender - water - breathe - resource spot Bi-lateral music & Resource Spot

# KNOW (OR CREATE) YOUR PROTOCOLS!!!



**Protocols** What are your current protocols? What is working? What can be improved? What can I do? (KEEP going and KEEP the faith). National hotline: 1-800-273-TALK (8255) \*988

# **Curiosity Saved The Cat**

1- notice where you are holding tension
2- notice where you are holding relaxation
3- start looking around the room naming objects
4- what do you notice happening in your body?
5- what do you notice in regards to your breathe?





#### Japan as a model

- -National implementation of "common sense" systems
- -Crisis services
- -Healthcare
- -Suicide/Depression screenings
- -Treatment/Reduction in access to means

-Drug crisis -Rugged American -Access to means -Fascination with violence

-State of Emergency - Racial violence/Covid/War -Loneliness (Who is not on this list?)??????





# "I know a guy." -Melissa Schemmenti







# The Lifeline and 988

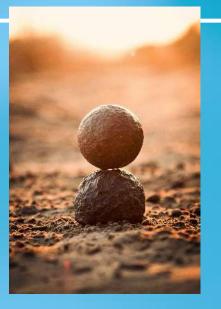
The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.



- -Mental Health conditions
- -Depression
- -Substance use problems (Laura)
- -Bipolar disorder
- -Schizophrenia

-Personality traits of aggression, mood changes and poor relationships

- -Conduct disorder (Billy) and (Nina)
- -Anxiety disorders (Lucus)
- -Serious physical health conditions including pain
- -Traumatic brain injury





#### **Risk Factors - Environmental**

-Access to lethal means including firearms and drugs
-Prolonged stress, such as harassment, bullying,
-Relationship problems or unemployment
-Stressful life events, like rejection, divorce, financial crisis, other life transitions or loss. (unresolved loss)
-Exposure to another person's suicide, or to graphic or sensationalized accounts of suicide.
-Marginalized populations lacking access to care.



#### Warning Signs - Mood

-Depression -Anxiety -Loss of interest <u>-Irritability</u> -Humiliation/Shame <u>-Agitation/</u>Anger -Relief/Sudden improvement <u>Ambivalence</u>





#### Warning Signs - Behavior

-Increased use of alcohol or drugs

- -Looking for a way to end their lives, such as searching online for methods
- -Withdrawing from activities
- -Isolating from family or friends
- -Sleeping too much or too little (PTSD nightmares)
- -Visiting or calling people to say goodbye
- -Giving away prized possessions
- -Aggression
- -Fatigue

## Warning Signs - Talk

If a person talks about:

-Killing themselves/<u>have a plan</u>
-Feeling hopeless
-Having no reason to live
-Being a burden to others
-Feeling trapped
-Unbearable pain





#### **Risk Factors - Historical**

-Previous suicide attempts
-Family history of suicide
-Childhood abuse, neglect or trauma
-pain tolerance



# **Assessing Risk\***

Unresolved grief and loss

Thomas Joiner:



 $\rightarrow$  Perceived burdon?  $\rightarrow$  Thwarted purpose?  $\rightarrow$  The ability to engage in lethal self-injury (chronic pain)?

Habituation, children who have a higher pain tolerance, chronic pain, & the lasting impact

\*Seek professional help if student answers yes to any of these questions

#### **Risk Factors:**

Current suicide plan\*

Pain that is unbearable

Resources (lack of)

+Previous behavior

+Mental health concerns

#### Interventions:

Disable the plan

Ease the pain

**Assessing Risk** 

Connection

Support past survival skills

Link to therapist

LIVINGWORKS ASIST Evidence-based training





#### After a Crisis - Who is at Risk?

-Have a history of suicide attempts
-Have a history of depression, trauma, or loss
-Are dealing with stressful life events, such as death or divorce in the family
-Were eyewitnesses to the death
-Are family members or close friends of the deceased (or knew the deceased)

-Who is on your crisis team?



#### After a Crisis - Who is at Risk? Contagion Risk

-Received a phone call, text, or other communication from the deceased foretelling the suicie and possible feel guilty about having missed the warning signs



-Had a last very negative interaction with the deceased -May have fought with or bullied the deceased



## Media Guidelines

Do not glamorize or romaticize the victim or the suicide. Do not oversimplify th caues of suicide. Don not describe the details of the method.

Use preferred language like "died" vs. "committed" Include messages or hope and recovery. Consult suicide prevention experts. List the 988 suicide & crisis lifeline



# **Protective Factors For Teens**

**Problem Solving Skills** 

**Extracurricular** activities

Attached at home and school

**Coping Skills** 

**Esteem (self and others)** 

- + Medical access
- + Spirituality





#### The Top Resiliency Traits for Children:

- <u>CONNECTION to Caring Adults</u>
- <u>P</u>lay and Creativity
- <u>R</u>outine and Ritual
- +Mindfulness +Skills



- 1) Mindfulness
- Grounding techniques
   Deep breathing
  - Deep breathing
- 4) **Resource Brainspotting**
- Calming activities & Movement 5)





https://www.instagram.com/reel/Ct W7uFjAuig/?igshid=MTc4MmM1Y ml2Ng%3D%3D





"I don't need to know anything else about you to know that I am looking at the tip of what could be a very big iceberg. You are doing the best you can to deal with unbearable pain."

"A lot of people don't understand that suicide is actually an attempt to save the self rather than destroy it."

**Team Consultation** 

#### How to talk to someone about suicide



Ask directly Ask about reasons to live Ask about reasons to die Give resources including mental health resources

## **CONFIDENT INTERVENTION**

Why panic is a <u>normal</u> reaction

How to move panic to urgency (Act now)

When to <u>"tap"</u> out (Don't be a hero)

How to take care of you and look out for others



What it means to be engaged and also to re-engage

How our <u>personal beliefs</u> can influence our impact - It's Okay!!!

Why?

**Communicate Understanding** "It feels good." "It is the only time I feel anything." "I like the feeling of taking care of the wound." "It distracts me from the pain I feel in my life." "If I didn't self-injure I would hurt someone else." "I like the color red." "It keeps me from killing myself." "It is the only way I can get my needs met." "I can't deal with emotional pain and I need others to help me." "It is the only way I can get attention." "Sometimes I just need relief." "It is pain I can control." "It is my only friend."

## **Communicate Understanding**



My scars tell a story about my resilience Why? What? How? When? Where?

## **Externalize Behavior**

"What does NSSI want?" "What is NSSI trying to do to help you? "What does NSSI need to to know about you? "What purpose does NSSI serve in your life? "What will need to happen for NSSI to stop trying to control you? "What is NSSI scared of?" "Why does NSSI think you need it to survive?" "What new job would NSSI like to have in your life?" "What opportunity is NSSI presenting for you?"



#### **Communicate Understanding** What NOT To Do:

Lecture Panic Force feed Shame or guilt the person Forget to listen (WAIT) Make promises you can't keep Apologize (this is not about you!



Tell someone you know what it is like to be them



#### What is the power of metaphor?

Metaphorical language—which includes metaphors,

similes, analogies, and other comparisons—is a

powerful tool in social change communications.

Metaphors that rely on everyday objects or

experiences can help us introduce unfamiliar issues

or explain complex ones.



### **The Power of Metaphor**

"I have been cut." "I have been burned." "I am broken." "My wounds will not heal." "I am in pain."



Sometimes there are no words

### <u>YOU</u> ARE THE INTERVENTION



https://www.tiktok.com/@overtime/video/6775276891 587759365?lang=en

# Five Core Concepts (Skills)

- 1. <u>The Box:</u> The connection between unresolved grief, loss, and behavior and getting out of the Overflow
- 2. <u>The Bandage:</u> The value and application of various coping and healing practices
- 3. The Glasses: Reality is subjective
- 4. <u>The Treasure:</u> Marking progress and radical acceptance
- 5. <u>The Map:</u> Cultivating resilience and creating realistic goals









## Use Strategies to Help Others Feel Understood





https:// www.youtu be.com/wat ch?v=2QBSz jk7C78



**66** Rap artists are among the most recognizable celebrities in the US, serving as role models to an increasingly diverse audience of listeners. Through their lyrics, these artists have the potential to shape mental health discourse and reduce stigma. **99** 

University of North Carolina researchers



In her 2022 album Traumazine, Megan Thee Stallion raps about having anxiety.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pbd98pgBVg8 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KJvmdDBrXNU

 $\begin{array}{r} \textbf{1-800-273-8255}\\ \textbf{1-80$ 

Megan Thee Stallion at the Grammys on April 3, 2022. Maria Alejandra Cardona/Recier



## I was going to walk into the highway, this song said that I wasn't alone in feeling that way. I got out of the road, stopped fell to my knees and called my mother then the hot line for help



https://www.badbitcheshaveb addaystoo.com/

"Women, especially Black women, are afraid to report crimes like assault and sexual violence because they are too often not believed. This trial, for the second time this month, highlighted the numerous ways that our society must do better for women.." -LA DA

"Here's to ending the stigma around mental health and normalizing asking for help." Jesy Nelson -Grande

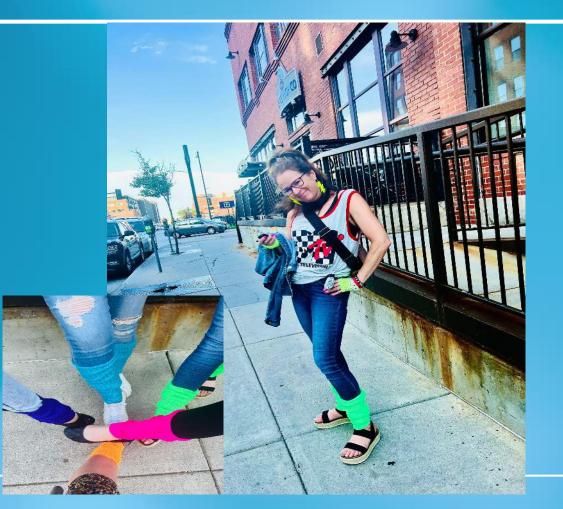


**Dove Cameron** Ed Sheeran Elle King **Ellie Goulding** Halsey James Blake Janet Jackson Joe Jonas Julie Andrews **Justin Bieber** Zayn Malik Zendaya

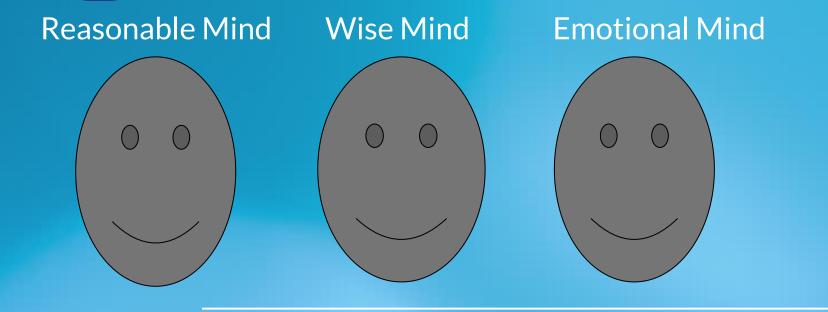
Katy Perry Kendrick Lamar Kanye West Kid Cudi Kristen Bell Lady Gaga Lizzo Logic Mariah Carey **Michelle Williams Shawn Mendes** Miley Cyrus Sia Ariana Grande

Nicki Minaj Naomi Judd Noah Cyrus Pete Wentz Pink **Rachel Bloom Rick Springfield** Ryan Tedder Selena Gomez Sinead O'Connor Dave Gahan **Alanis Morissette** 

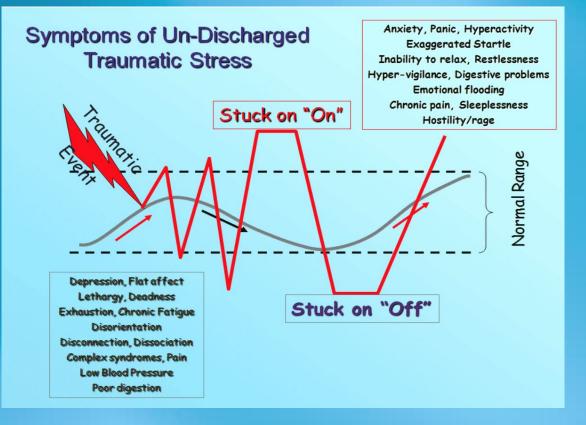
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= KJvmdDBrXNU



## **Dialectical Behavioral Therapy** (<u>trauma states</u>)





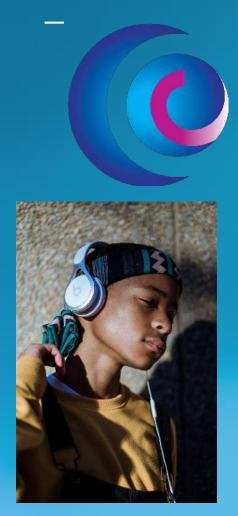


Chain

# Analysis







## **Bi-Lateral Beats Music Eye Movement** Taps **Brain Scan Meditation Resource Brainspotting** Walking/Running **Gaze Spotting Brain Love**





#### USE SKILLS TO PROMOTE MINDFULNESS AND STATE CHANGE

Walking in Nature and/or Engage the Senses

- Mindful Eating/Mindful Breathing
- Name Five Things in the Room
- Name Five Things Outside of the Room
- **Get Curious About Your Surroundings**
- Find the Color Blue, Pink, Orange, and Yellow

Counting



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=egjWRWOUME4&t=5s

# The PAUSE is a beautiful moment

"The inability to wait, or the suspicion that waiting won't do any good, is at the center of the suicidal impulse."





# The PAUSE is a beautiful moment

1-Notice what is happening2-Regulate3-Get curious4-What does the part need?5-Soothe the part (or self)

Sloooooowwwww down Know you are not using your neocortex Regulate THEN Process



## **More Mindfulness Skills**













https://tenor.com/view/baby-yoda-thechild-whee-chrisrw-gif-19013117



Dee helped me!!! Feel the rainbow



**The Purpose Of Emotions** Survive (fight,flight,freeze) Internal Brain Scan Remember people and situations Cope with situations in your daily life **Communicate with others** 

Avoid pain (this is big with SI/NSSI) Seek pleasure -Wood & Brantley





For anyone who has survived Violence, please know your Feelings are valid. You matter. You are not at fault. You are Important. You are not defined By your trauma.

-Megan Thee Stallion









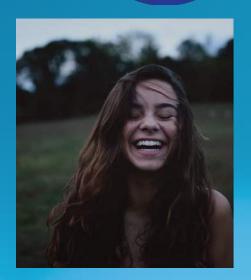
#### https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rz5TGN7eUcM

Apparently we need a cute kid break

## YOU ARE THE CEO YOU ARE THE LANDLORD CREATE YOUR THINK TANK







#### **DISTRACT IN HEALTHY WAYS** What brings you joy? What gives you energy?

You can't be in it all the time! Container or bubble skill Box Skill The Bigger Picture



## **Resilience and Recovery: A New Relationship**



Shaking Hands with NSSI









#### Mel Robbins -High Five Rule



We learn Through failure.

#### How have you failed today?



## Postvention

**\*** When the person comes back



★ Why it is complicated grief/head attacks

\* How to get out of the canyon of why

Stopping Suicide With Story | Sally Spencer-Thomas | TEDxCr...

🖼 🌣 YouTube 门

0:00 / 19:15

\* Why tender days matter

\* What you can do: Heartbeat

\* Where to go for help (IFSP) - 11/19/22

#### Helping Others and Radical Acceptance

You Can't Change What Happened But You Can Do Something With It

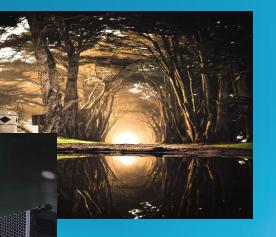


#### **Celebrate & Mentorship Create hope/not all bad**





## - Hope is An Action



Teach & Create Realistic Goals

Teach & Foster Mental Flexibility

Teach & Remember Pain is Temporary(it's not all bad)

Teach & Shift Gravity Problems

Teach the power of associations



## IT'S NOT ALL BAD!!!





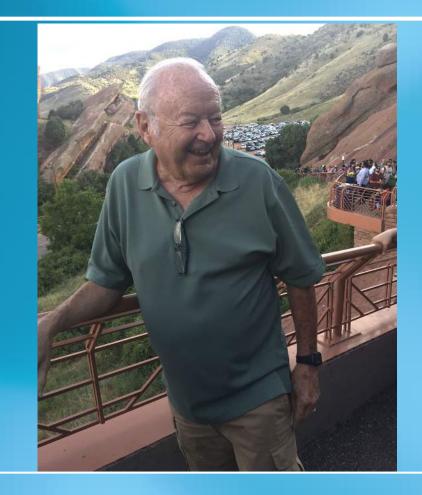


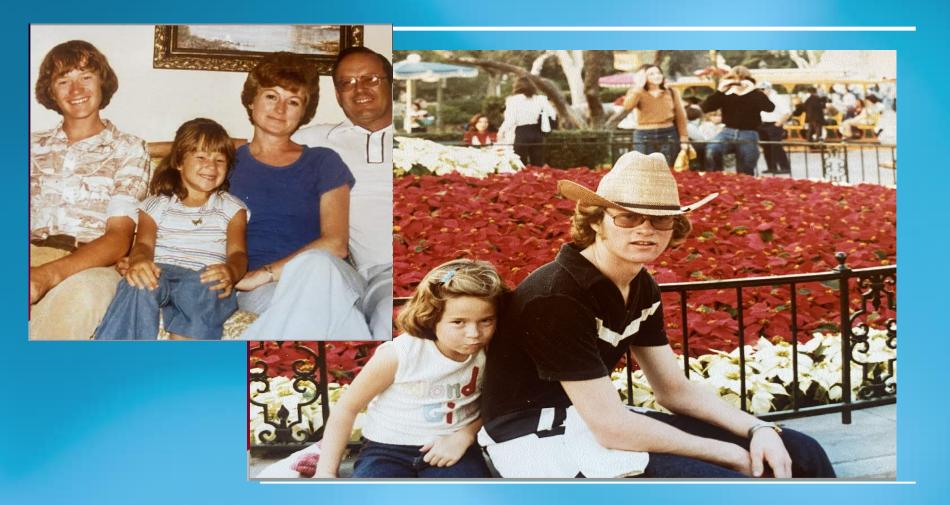




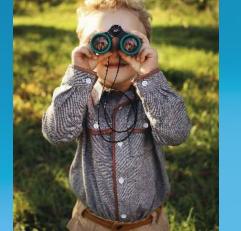












Look for inspiration and inspire others Live fully by opening the door Listen to music that feeds you













#### IT'S NOT ALL BAD!!!

Your experience counts



"Your song saved my life The worst and the best days of my life I was broken, now I'm open, your love keeps me alive..."

-U2



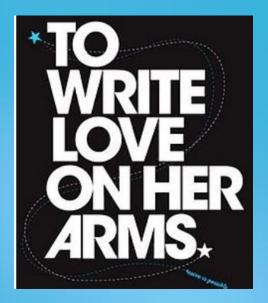


#### Where to Go From Here

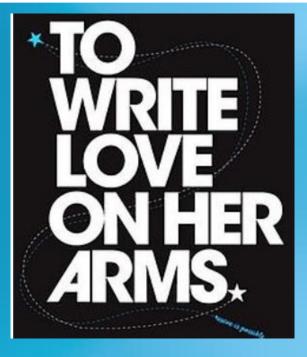
#### To Write Love on Her Arms

International Society on the Study of Self-Injury (ISSS)

National Alliance on Mental Health (NAMI)



# From Hopelessness to Hope....



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pRIIg-UOgv8&t=59s

#### **Resilience and Recovery-Therapies that work**

<u>Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT)</u>: which help you identify unhealthy, negative beliefs and behaviors and replace them with healthy, adaptive ones

<u>Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (DBT)</u>: a type of CBT that teaches behavioral skills to help you tolerate distress, manage or regulate your emotions, and improve your relationships with others

<u>Mindfulness-based therapies</u>: which help you lie in the present, appropriately perceive the thoughts and actions of those around you to reduce your anxiety and depression, and improve your general well-being -Mayo Clinic, 2020

## Where To Go From Here

<u>Tattered Teddies</u>: a workshop about preventing suicide in children

<u>SOS:</u> a program for middle school and high school students designed to teach them about how to identify the signs of depression and suicidality in themselves and others (safe to tell)

safeTALK: suicide awareness for everyone (3 hours)



# The Lifeline and 988

The current Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis, even after 988 is launched nationally.



American Foundation for Suicide Prevention





CREATING GLOBAL HEALING, HEALTH & HOPE



40 Years of Building Hope



#### ROCKY MOUNTAIN BRAINSPOTTING INSTITUTE

# Brainspotting

#### Self-Injury & Suicide: When & How Educators Should Intervene

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#### https://www.youtube.com/shorts/eOUsJ4NUAnU





https://www.instagram.com/reel/Cs\_BEaALXsw/?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFI ZA%3D%3D



