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Contact:

Kerri Mabee, Public Information Specialist
Riverside University Health System – Public Health
Cell: 951-313-2394 Office: 951-358-5086
Email: kmabee@rivcocha.org

Rebecca Antillon, Injury Prevention Services
Riverside University Health System-- Public Health
Office: 951-358-7171 Cell: 951.453.7983
Email: rantillon@rivcocha.org

Public Health to offer free suicide awareness, prevention training

Noting the growing concern of suicide in our communities in Riverside County, health officials will host a Safe Talk training from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Aug. 2 at the Community Action Partnership of Riverside County offices, located at 2038 Iowa Ave., Suite B-12, in Riverside.

“We understand the devastation that can come from losing a loved one to suicide and want to help. So, this training will talk about the warning signs and risk factors associated with suicide and how we can offer comfort and a connection to resources,” said Rebecca Antillon, program coordinator with Riverside University Health System – Public Health (RUHS – PH) Injury Prevention program.

The training is free and open to the public, but attendees are asked to pre-register.

As part of the Injury Prevention team’s effort to offer resources, training and support, Antillon will work with parents, staff and students July 16-20 at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, FL, scene of one of the deadliest school massacres in U.S. history.

The visit is made possible by the joint efforts of the Parkland Alumni Association and the U.S. Army. It is timed to assist staff and students with training, support and access to resources in advance of the school year.

“Public Health is honored to provide this support to the students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School and to our residents here in Riverside County,” Antillon said. “We want to be a part of the conversation that finds solutions to this issue.”

To sign up for the Safe Talk event planned for Aug. 2, call 951.358.7171 or email Kimberly Jow, Health Services Assistant at KJow@rivcocha.org. Seating is limited, so please pre-register today.

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