



NEW VISION CARE MINISTRY

Policy Description: NVCM.003 Protocol for Suicidality

Revised Date: 05/28/2021

Applies To: NVBC Biblical Counselors

PURPOSE: To outline a protocol for handling suicidal ideation and threats to harm self.

FIRST – Take Every Threat Seriously !

Myth: “People who talk about killing themselves never do.”

Fact: We should take any threat of suicide seriously.—15% of those who are depressed ultimately take their lives... of those who take their own lives, 80% percent have warned someone.

So If suicide is a concern, ask— “Are you thinking about hurting yourself or ending your life?”

“An intelligent heart acquires knowledge, and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge.” Proverbs 18:15

SECOND – Offer To Get Them Some Help !

Encourage them to Call 911

If they are willing, they can or you can dial 911 to access immediate help.
You can also call 911 if you are worried about their safety in order to request a welfare (safety) check.

Encourage them to call a Suicide Hotline

NATIONAL:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
or Use the Crisis Text Line by texting HOME to 741741

LOCAL:

Mobile crisis for adults: 615-726-0125
Minors (under 18) Youth Villages: 866-791-9221

Connect them to NVBC counseling

Have them go to NEWVISIONLIFE.COM and select [CARE](#). About midway of the page is a [Request Help Now](#) link. Once they submit the request help form, within 24-48hrs one of our trained biblical counselors will reach out to connect with them to get them the help they need.

*** IMPORTANT NOTE:** Though we typically expedite these requests - a counseling request is not a means to getting help in case of a life-threatening emergency. If they are



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in danger, experiencing a threat, or need life saving help, **please encourage them dial 911** to access immediate help.

"Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success." Proverbs 15:22

Call or Text one of our CARE ministry staff

Scott Reeder 502-802-1747

Ray Moss 615-772-8132

Becky Johnson 615-351-7370

Additional Resources and Education on Depression and Suicide

[Nine Guidelines for Counseling Suicidal People](#) – Dr. Robert Jones

[Myths About Suicide](#) - Tennessee Prevention Suicide Network

[Warning Signs](#) - Tennessee Prevention Suicide Network

[Biblical Counseling Key on Suicide Prevention](#) – Hope for the Heart

[Biblical Counseling Key on Depression](#) – Hope for the Heart

"The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." Psalm 34:18



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