

THE ABCDs OF SCREENING & MANAGEMENT OF SUICIDE RISK



ASSESS

Screen for suicidality and suicide risk. Use the ASQ or other commonly used screening tool. If positive screen, proceed to further assessment of risk.



BUILD HOPE

Focus on the child's strengths rather than the problems to build hope and reasons for living.



CREATE CONNECTIONS

Identify who can help keep them safe or who they can turn to when they need help. Work to form connections between child and health system.



DEVELOP SAFETY PLAN

Work with the child to develop a safety plan and involve the family. Review the plan with the child and the family together.



**SUICIDE
& CRISIS
LIFELINE
DIAL 988**
Text or Call 24/7

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. While some areas may be currently able to connect to the Lifeline by dialing 988, this dialing code will be available to everyone across the United States starting on July 16, 2022. The previous 988 Lifeline phone number (1-800-273-8255) will always remain available to people in emotional distress or suicidal crisis.

SAFETY PLAN: CHILD

- Counsel on limiting access to potentially lethal self-harm methods and supportive protective monitoring
- Identify triggers for suicidal and self-harm thoughts and behaviors (situations, stressors, emotional reactions)
- Identify behaviors, thoughts, and people for staying safe
- Build commitment to using the safety plan vs suicidal or self-harm behavior
- Troubleshoot barriers to using safety plan

SAFETY PLAN: FAMILY

- Share why the child is at risk and the gravity of the situation
- Counsel on safe storage of dangerous items in the home
- Counsel on importance of supportive and protective monitoring/supervision
- Review child's safety plan and family's role in the safety plan
- Connect the child and family to needed follow-up care