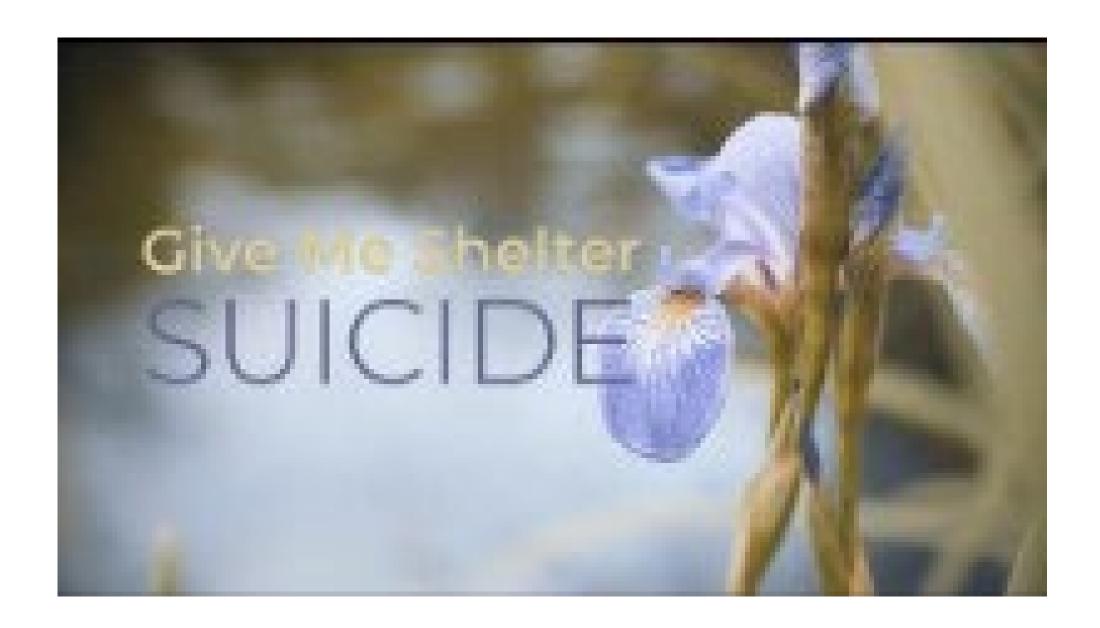
Shanthi Lewis, MD Lehigh Valley Health Network Department of Psychiatry



Learning Objectives

- Epidemiology
- Risk factors
- Bereavement
- Impact on suicide loss survivors





• 30% increase in suicide in last 10 years nationally

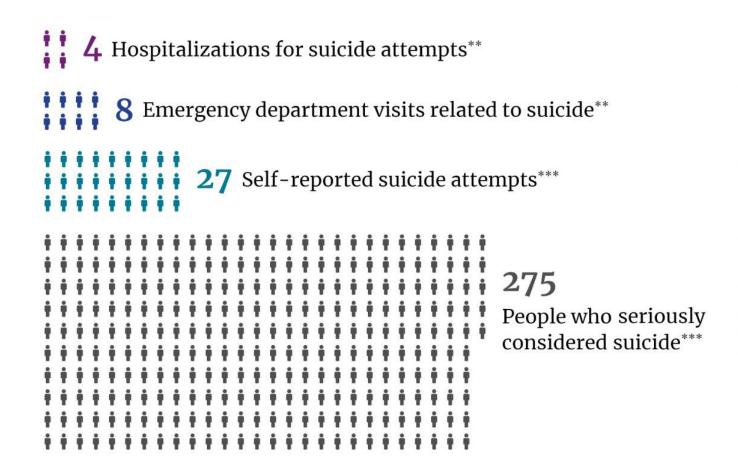
- •46,000 people died from suicide in 2020 nationally
 - 1 person every 10 minutes

- 100 people died from suicide in Lehigh Valley in 2020
 - More than 1 person/week

• Suicide is 3rd leading cause of death in 10-34 year-olds in Pennsylvania.

 54% of suicide deaths were by firearms nationally in 2020 For every suicide death, there are

CDC data



Socioeconomic Risk Factors

- Demographic parameters
- Social status
- Social change
- Neighborhood
- Environmental incidences



Precipitants

- Job Loss
- Financial
- Illness
- Relationship difficulties



Other Losses

Warning Signs

- Change in sleep/appetite
- Social Withdrawal
- Anhedonia
- Increased substance use



- Suicide Note
- Talking about death
- Giving away belongings
- Hopelessness

Prevention

1

Talk about suicide

2

Keep them safe

3

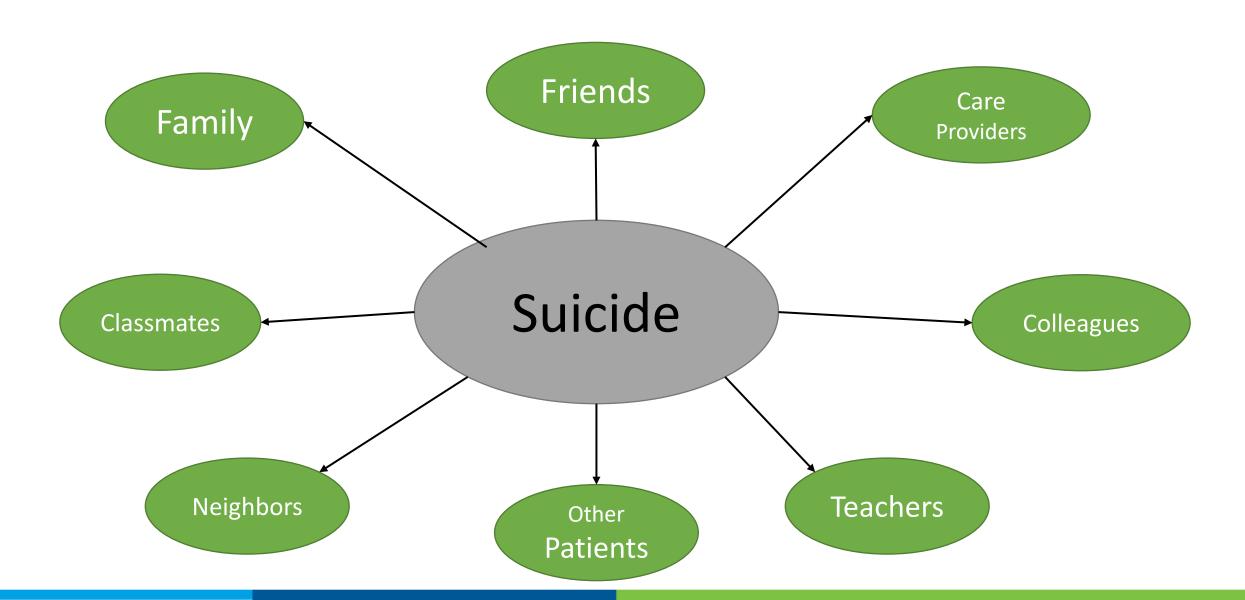
Be present

4

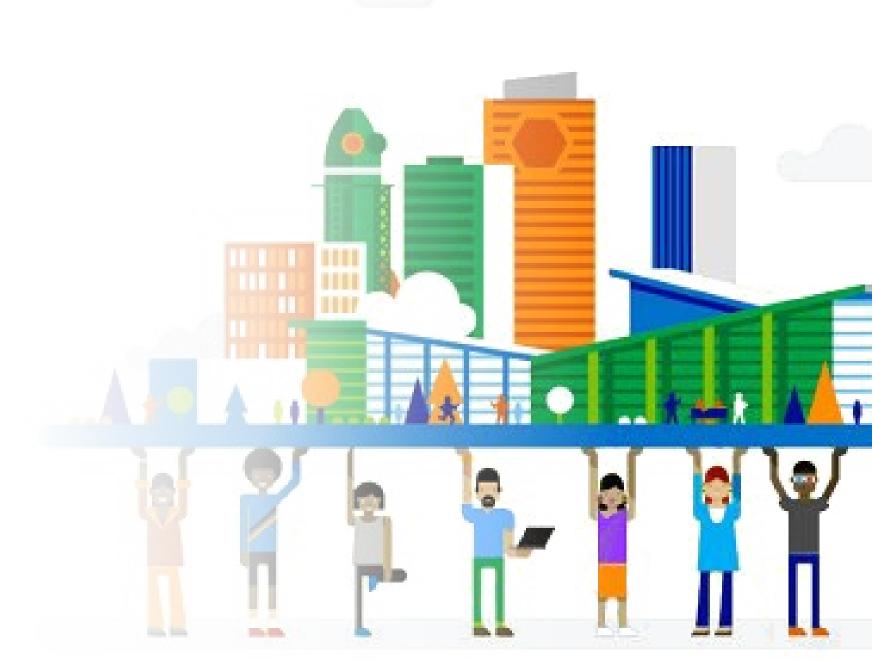
Connect them with a professional 5

Stay in contact

Impact of Suicide



- Education
- Compassion
- Community Partnerships



There is Help Out There!









Questions?

