

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO KEEPING
OUR COMMUNITY – AND OUR YOUTH – SAFE**



If you or someone you know is experiencing bullying, abuse, harassment and / or discrimination, you can contact the Health Region confidentially at 1-877-329-0005.



www.SafePlacesSK.ca



safeplaces@swiftcurrent.ca



306.778.2777

SAFE PLACES – YOUTH CERTIFIED IS A COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT QUALITY PROGRAMMING WHILE REDUCING POTENTIAL RISKS TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH.

BY BECOMING YOUTH CERTIFIED, YOU'RE DEMONSTRATING TO YOUR COMMUNITY THAT YOU TAKE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AS A PERSON IN A POSITION OF TRUST WITH YOUTH SERIOUSLY, AND YOU'RE DEMONSTRATING TO THE YOUTH YOU COME INTO CONTACT WITH – AND TO THEIR LOVED ONES – THAT YOU HAVE THE TRAINING AND BACKGROUND THAT MAKES YOU WORTHY OF THEIR TRUST IN YOU.

THE SAFE PLACES ADVANTAGE? IT'S PORTABLE, AND RECOGNIZED ACROSS ALL ORGANIZATIONS THAT ENDORSE THIS QUALITY STANDARD OF CERTIFICATION. ONCE YOUTH CERTIFIED, YOU'LL HAVE NO MORE NEED TO GET MULTIPLE CHECKS FOR MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS EACH YEAR.



SAFE PLACES
RECOGNIZING & RESPONDING TO CRISIS

SIGNS THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG...

ACTIONS

- » Lost or destroyed clothing, books, electronics, or jewelry
- » Declining grades, loss of interest in schoolwork, or not wanting to go to school
- » Loss of interest in sports, or activities they once loved
- » Sudden loss of friends or avoidance of social situations
- » Get into physical or verbal fights
- » Are increasingly aggressive
- » Are competitive and worry about their reputation or popularity

THOUGHTS

- » "I can't do anything right"
- » "I'm not good enough"
- » "I can't take it anymore"
- » "No one even likes me"

FEELINGS

- » Helpless
- » Lonely
- » Angry
- » Guilty
- » Worthless
- » Sad

PHYSICAL SIGNS

- » Unexplainable injuries
- » Frequent headaches or stomach aches, feeling sick, faking illness
- » Decreased self-esteem
- » Lack of interest in appearance or over-interest in appearance
- » Change/loss of appetite, weight gain or loss
- » Difficulty sleeping or frequent nightmares

QUESTIONS TO ASK...

(REMEMBER, NO LEADING QUESTIONS)

Depending on the Action, Feelings, Physical Signs or Thoughts that are present, your questions will vary and start off differently...

- » "You're often hungry...What did you have for breakfast, lunch or dinner?"
- » "Are you having a hard time understanding the school work? How can I help?"
- » "You have a bruise on your arm, how did that happen? Can you tell me more?"
- » "What do you mean you can't do anything right?"
- » "No one likes you? Can you tell me why you think that?"

RESPONSES WHEN A DISCLOSURE IS MADE

- » Listen, Respond Positively and Believe the Child
- » You can say... "It's good to tell someone" or "I'm glad you told me"
- » If appropriate, you can say...
 - » "I'm sorry this has happened to you" or
 - » "I'll do what I can to see that you are protected"
- » IF A CHILD SAYS DON'T TELL ANYONE, YOU CAN SAY...
 - » "I know it's difficult, but this has to stop, so I must legally report what has happened" or
 - » "This happens to a lot of kids and there is help available" or
 - » "I know people who have talked to children that this has happened to and they can help"

DUTY TO REPORT

Every person who has reasonable grounds to believe that a child is in need of protection shall report the information to an officer of peace.

Section 12 : Child and Family Services Act

* Referent's name remains confidential

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

Contact Cypress Health Region Confidentially at 1-877-329-0005

Social Services 306-778-8219

City RCMP 306-778-4870 – After business hours, or if no one answers at Social Services

