



YScreen is the emotional health screen offered to all 9th grade students at the high schools in Fond du Lac County to identify risk factors for depression, anxiety and suicide.

October 2017 LGBTQ, Suicide, and Mental Health

KNOW THE FACTS

- **1 out of 3** LGBTQ youth attempt suicide
- Suicide is the **SECOND** leading cause of death for youth ages 15-24
- **43%** of LGBTQ youth consider suicide compared to **15%** of heterosexual youth
- **38%** of LGBTQ youth make a suicide plan compared to **12%** of heterosexual youth
- **29%** of LGBTQ youth attempt suicide compared to heterosexual youth
- LGBTQ youth are **more than twice** as likely as heterosexual youth to have a mental health disorder

(PESI, 2017)

Mental health issues among LGBTQ youth is on the rise and it is important to be aware of the statistics and potential interventions to assist the LGBTQ community. Prevention and support is possible and here are a few tips:

- When a youth discloses his or her LGBTQ identity, respond in an affirming way
- Use the name and pronoun the youth (he/she/they) identifies with
- Welcome a youth's LGBTQ friends or partner
- Support a youth's expression through choices of clothing, jewelry...etc.
- Provide a safe and welcoming environment
- Educate yourself about LGBTQ issues, and resources (visit www.gsafewi.org)

YScreen can help identify and connect the LGBTQ population with school and community resources. YScreen can assist this population with positive coping techniques, a safe space to express their feelings and emotions, and be an ally/advocate for the LGBTQ youth. YScreen is available to teens in Fond du Lac County. If you would like to request screening for your child or would like more information about YScreen, please contact us at **(920) 906-6700 ext. 4714**.

The Fond du Lac Area YScreen Program is administered through Fond du Lac School District with guidance from the YScreen Advisory Board. The Fond du Lac Area YScreen program is proud to be supported in part by the Fond du Lac Area United Way, Agnesian HealthCare and the Wisconsin Partnership Program through the UW School of Medicine and Public Health.