Understanding the impact of the "Signs of Suicide" Program
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BACKGROUND

• Middle school is a "sensitive period" that may heighten the risk of anxiety, depression, and related psychological difficulties.
• Early adolescence marks the rise in risk of suicide; as children age into late adolescence and early adulthood, the suicide rate increases dramatically.
• During middle school, students and parents may become sensitized to warning signs of suicide (Schilling, E. 2014).

METHODS

• Descriptive Quantitative Study
• Group Survey
• Sample = 530

INSTRUMENTS

• Brief Screen for Adolescent Depression (BSAD).

RESULTS

• Out of a sample size of 530 8th grade students; 70 students were considered moderate to high risk for depression and suicide ideations. These students were referred to services.
• Out of 70 referrals: 26 males & 44 females
• Out of 70 referrals: 46 parents agreed to services.
• There is a 65.7% follow through for services at a middle school in Clermont County.

PARTICIPANTS

• 530 students in 8th grade ranging from ages eleven to thirteen years old.
• Participants identify as male, female, and or transgender.
• Students all come from different SES backgrounds.

DATA ANALYSIS

• After collecting the data from a middle school in Clermont County, graphs were created to show the results.
• Microsoft Excel was used to preform an analysis of the data and to create the graphs.

DISCUSSION

• Results show that there is a positive impact from the Signs of Suicide program.
• This program brings awareness to mental health and allows students to get the services that they need.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results from the 2019-2020 data: The Signs of Suicide program is effective with getting students assessed and into services; with a follow through of 65.7%.

LIMITATIONS

• Participation and honesty with students
• Parent choosing to “opt” student out of SOS program

REFERENCES