



# Teen Depression

## Depression Risks

Untreated depression is an intense feeling of sadness, hopelessness, anger or frustration that is long lasting; such as for weeks, months, or longer.

- Big transitions in life
- Stress, or changes in the body's chemicals that affect thoughts and mood
- Hereditary

## Ways to Help

- Family support
- Peer support
- Daily exercise
- Good sleep habits
- Spending time outside in nature and in the sun
- Eating healthy foods.
- Utilizing relaxation techniques

## Listen to the threats

- **Threats:** Children and adolescents who are depressed may say they want to be dead or may talk about suicide.
- **Alcohol Drug abuse:** Depressed adolescents may abuse alcohol or other drugs as a way of trying to feel better.
- **Behavior:** Teens who are acting out at home or school may be suffering from depression.

## Signs and Symptoms

**Seek help if these symptoms last more than 2 weeks:**

- Sadness, emptiness, hopelessness
- Angry, cranky, or frustrated, even at minor things
- Uninterested in activities they used to enjoy
- Change in appetite or weight
- Trouble falling asleep or staying asleep, or sleep much more than usual
- Feeling worthless or very guilty
- Have trouble concentrating, remembering information, or making decisions
- Social isolation, poor communication, or difficulty with relationships
- Extremely sensitive to rejection or failure
- Thoughts about dying or suicide, or attempting suicide

**8%** of children and adolescents suffer from depression at any given point in time.

## Protect your teen from the risks of Guns:

- Store guns unloaded, uncocked and locked in a gun safe or lock box. Only parents should know where the gun is kept.
- Store and lock bullets in a separate place from the guns.
- Avoid devices that use keys--teens often know where they are.
- When your teen goes to a friend's home, ask if there is a gun in the home and how it's stored.
- Talk about the risk of guns.

# Flathead County Mental Health Resource Guide

## CRISIS PREVENTION:

- **National Suicide Prevention Lifeline:**
  - 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- **Montana Suicide Support Group:** 406-543-2890
- **Crisis Text Line:** Text 741-741 to text with a Crisis Counselor
- **Montana Children's Mental Health Bureau:**
  - 406-444-4545 or 888-866-0328
- **Crisis Intervention Team:** 406-582-2100
- **The Help Center:** 406-586-3333
- **Law Enforcement/ EMS:** 911 (ask for a CIT officer)
- **Emergency Room:** 406-585-1000
- **Montana 211 (information for nearby services):**
  - Dial 211 or 549-5555
- **Help Center (24 Hour Crisis Line and Suicide Outreach):**
  - 406-586-3333
- **Montana Warm Line (general mental health support line):** 877-688-3377
- **Mental Health America of Montana:** 877-927-6642
- **State Mental Health Ombudsman:** 888-444-9669
- **Montana Child and Family Ombudsman:** 844-252-4453
- **Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration:** 877-726-4727

## COUNSELING AND PSYCHIATRIC ASSISTANCE:

- **Youth Dynamics (Families whose youth may be dealing with emotional or behavioral issues):**
  - Crisis Line available 24/7: 1-800-406-7170
  - 406-751-8017
- **Western Montana Health Center:** 406-257-1336
- **A.W.A.R.E, Inc. (Adult & Children's Case Management and Psychiatric Services):** 406-755-9471
- **Sinopah House (youth residential and crisis services):**
  - 406-257-5194
- **Safe House (Crisis Intervention and Emergency Services):** 406-755-5440
- **Still water Therapeutic Services (Children's Outpatient Treatment Center):** 406-752-6100

## MENTAL HEALTH INFORMATION:

- **NAMI Montana (support, education and advocacy):**
  - 406-443-7871
  - **National Headquarters:** 800-950-6264
- **Parents, Let's Unite for Kids (PLUK):** 406-255-0540/
  - 800-222-7585
- **Tumbleweed Runaway Program (service for runaway, homeless, and at-risk-youth and families):** 406-259
  - 2558 or 888-816-4702
- **Girls and Boys Town National Hotline:** 800-448-3000

## LEGAL ASSISTANCE:

- **Police Department (non-emergency):** 406-892-3234
- **Family Support Network:** 406-256-7783/
  - 877-376-4850
- **Child and Family Services, Flathead County:**
  - 406-751-5950
- **Child Abuse Hotline:** 1-866-820-5437
- **Child Abuse Hotline (TTY-Hearing Impaired):**
  - 1-866-341-8811
- **Child Support Enforcement Division (DPHHS):**
  - 406-329-7010

## HEALTH COVERAGE:

- **Healthy Montana Kids Health Coverage:** 406-329-
  - 1200 or 1-877-543-7669
- **Montana Mental Health Services Plan:** 406-444-9330
- **Healthy Montana Kids (MT CHIP) Eligibility Hotline:**
  - 888-706-1535
- **Flathead Community Health Center:**
  - 406-751-8113
- **Addiction Treatment Help Line:** 877-887-5016
- **Alcoholics Anonymous:** 888-607-2000
- **State Addictive & Mental Disorders Information Line:**
  - 888-866-0328