Mental Health

What should we say and do?

Mental Health and Stigma are Gendered

- Depression is seen as something that women experience. This is due at least in part to stigma.
- Symptoms that we traditionally associate with depression (e.g., sadness, crying) may not be the symptoms that men exhibit. Men experiencing emotional pain may display anger, self-destructive behavior, substance use, gambling, and workaholism.

Mental Health and Stigma are Gendered

- Women are 2x as likely to be diagnosed with depression.
- Men are much more likely to die by suicide; 4 out of 5 suicide deaths are men.

Common Threads

- Feeling alone: Connectedness is important. Traditionally women may meet with friends just to get together, while men may meet with male friends for an activity.
- Concern about being a burden

Definitions

- Suicide
- Suicide Attempt
- Non-suicidal Self-injury
- Ideation

What do we say?

Say this

- Died by Suicide
- Death by Suicide/Suicide Death
- Suicide Attempt
- Suicide

Instead of this

- Committed Suicide
- Successful Attempt
- Unsuccessful Attempt
- Completed Suicide

Trigger Words

- Self-care
- Attention
- Mental Illness

What we typically do?

- Give Advice
- Share our personal story

What should we do?

- Question
- Persuade
- Refer

National Suicide Hotline

800-273-8255