

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.....

Derry Township School District has made a commitment to the Pennsylvania Department of Education to provide a Student Assistance Program (SAP). The program is designed to:

- provide prevention based activities and programs
- accept referrals of students who are experiencing barriers to learning and school success such as alcohol or drug use, depression, anxiety, grief, or other concerns
- intervene and refer these students to the appropriate school or community resources. This is a prevention and an intervention program, not a treatment program

The District made its decision to provide a Student Assistance Program because of its commitment to an educational environment which promotes positive mental health. Derry Township School District's Student Assistance Program is the Hershey Intervention & Prevention Program (HIP).

TRAINING.....

The team members of the Hershey Intervention & Prevention Program have undergone extensive training and continuing education as provided by a Pennsylvania Department of Education approved Student Assistance Program Training Provider.

REFERRAL.....

Referrals to the HIP Program may be made by teachers and school staff, parents/guardians, other students, by self-referral of a student experiencing difficulty in a situation or by anyone else concerned about a student. Referrals can also be made anonymously. Any student who violates the Derry Township School District Drug and Alcohol Policy will automatically be referred to the team for support.

HERSHEY INTERVENTION & PREVENTION PROGRAM (HIP).....

The Hershey Intervention & Prevention Program is comprised of a multi-disciplinary team including a District administrator, a building administrator, school counselors, a certified school nurse, a school social worker, a school psychologist, and classroom teachers.

Representatives of community agencies work closely with the team. Chemical dependency counselors, mental health professionals, a school resource officer, and a juvenile probation officer act as ad-hoc liaisons to the teams and provide support for the student and family as needed.

The Hershey Intervention & Prevention Program (HIP) is a voluntary process designed to gather data to assist in the assessment of the students' needs for help and support. The involvement of the parents or guardians of a student is key to this process.

WARNING SIGNS.....

- Declining or sudden drop in grades
- Increasing absenteeism or tardiness
- Changing eating and/or sleeping habits
- Losing interest in hobbies, sports or other favorite activities
- Withdrawing from family, friends and/or school
- Changing friends; no longer spends time with old friends
- Deteriorating personal appearance
- Increasing moodiness or anger; depressed mood, and/or anxiety
- Talking about or thoughts of suicide
- Defying authority at home and/or at school
- Acting aggressively
- Needing money without an explanation or having an unexplained source of money
- Experimenting with drugs and/or alcohol

OTHER POSSIBLE CONCERNS.....

- Recent death of a loved one
- Divorce of parents
- Family relocation or homelessness
- A relationship problem
- Other traumatic event

The HIP program is available for all students in grades K-12. If you have a concern about a student, please contact the school counselor or Lisa Sviben Miller, Director of Safe & Supportive Schools, at (717) 508-2246.

PARENTS/GUARDIANS:

“WHAT HAPPENS AFTER I GIVE MY PERMISSION?”.....

There are several steps that the team will take after you sign the permission form:

1. The HIP team will gather specific information about your child’s performance in school from all school staff who have contact with your child. A HIP team member will also talk with you either in person or over the phone about your observations, your child’s strengths, and your concerns.
2. Together, you and the HIP team will develop a plan of action to help your child achieve success in school. The plan might include services and activities in school and/or services from a community agency. If necessary, the HIP team will talk with you about services in the community and give you information on how to contact others who may be able to help.
3. The HIP team will continue to work with and support your child. They will stay in touch with you to talk about your child’s progress and success in school. Your continued involvement is very important.

Nondiscrimination Policy:

The Derry Township School District, an equal opportunity employer, will not discriminate in employment, educational programs or activities, based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, ancestry, physical handicap or union membership. This policy of non-discrimination extends to all legally protected classifications. Publication of this policy in this document is in accordance with state and federal laws, including Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 and Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries should be directed to Federal Programs Coordinator, District Office, Hershey, PA

COMMUNITY RESOURCES.....

Bullying Prevention Consultation Helpline	1-866-716-0424
ChildLine (Child Abuse)	1-800-932-0313
Cocoa Packs cocoapacks@gmail.com	717-489-2105
Contact Helpline	717-652-4400
Dauphin County Children & Youth Services	717-780-7200
Dauphin County Crisis Intervention	717-232-7511
Dauphin County Department of Drug and Alcohol	717-635-2254
Derry Township Police Department (non-emergency)	717-534-2202
Highmark Caring Place www.highmarkcaringplace.com	1-866-613-4673
Love, Inc.	717-835-0101
PA Department of Drug & Alcohol Programs (Treatment Providers)	1-800-622-HELP
Suicide Prevention Lifeline suicidepreventionlifeline.org	1-800-273-8255
TEAMCare Behavioral Health	717-525-9804
Teenline (Adolescent Hotline)	1-800-722-5385
Tobacco/Smoking Quitline	1-800-QUIT-NOW



A Student Assistance Program

Derry Township School District
P.O. Box 898
Hershey, PA 17033
(717) 534-2501
www.hershey.k12.pa.us