## SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

## Division of Mental Health & Addiction Services A service provided by the Camden County Board of Freeholders

## wellness/recovery/prevention

laying the foundation for healthy communities, together

| TALKING ABOUT SUICIDE      | Any talk about suicide, dying or self-harm, such as "I wish I hadn't been born," If I see you again." "I'd be better off dead."       |
|----------------------------|---|
| SEEKING OUT LETHAL MEANS   | Seeking access to guns, pills, knives, or other objects that could be used in suicide attempt.  |
| PREOCCUPATION WITH DEATH   | Unusual focus on death, dying or violence.<br>Writing poems or stories about death.   |
| NO HOPE FOR THE FUTURE     | Feelings of helplessness, hopelessness, and being trapped ("There's no way out"). Belief that things will never get better or change. |
| SELF-LOATHING, SELF-HATRED | Feelings of worthlessness, guilt, shame, and self-hatred. Feeling like a burden ("Everyone would be better off without me").          |
| GETTING AFFAIRS IN ORDER   | Making out a will. Giving away prized possessions.  Making arrangements for family members.   |
| SAYING GOODBYE             | Unusual or unexpected visits or calls to family and friends. Saying goodbye to people as if they won't be seen again.                 |
| WITHDRAWING FROM OTHERS    | Withdrawing from friends and family. Increasing social isolation. Desire to be left alone.  |
| SELF-DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIOR  | Increased alcohol/drug use, reckless driving, unsafe sex.<br>Taking unnecessary risks as if they have a "death wish."                 |
| SUDDEN SENSE OF CALM       | A sudden sense of calm and happiness after being extremely depressed can mean that the person has made a decision to commit suicide.  |

## HELP IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS, 7 DAYS A WEEK!

NJ Suicide Prevention HopeLine: 1-855-654-6735 (1-855-HopeL) National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: 1-800-273-TALK (8225) NJ Mental Health Cares: 1-866-202-HELP (4357)

Veterans Crisis helpline: 1-866-VETS-NJ 4U Camden County Crisis line: (856) 428-HELP (4357)

In an emergency call: 911

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