

The Power of



Self Compassion

The following article is based on *What Is Self-Compassion and How Can We Cultivate It?* by the McLean Hospital which can be found on their website.

Compassion is the ability to understand the feelings of others and act with kindness. It plays an important role in our relationships and our well-being.

Self-compassion is just as important. When we have self-compassion, we can recognize our emotions and respond in a caring way. Self-compassion is essential to having a healthy relationship with ourselves. It has many

mental health benefits.

What Is Self-Compassion?

According to the psychologist, Kristin Neff, PhD, self-compassion involves:

- Being kind and understanding with yourself in instances of pain or failure rather than being self-critical.
- Understanding your experiences are part of the larger human experience.
- Being aware of painful thoughts and feelings rather than overanalyzing them or taking them to heart.

Self-Compassion vs. Self-Esteem

Self-compassion might be confused with self-esteem. Although both states involve feelings of self-worth, they differ in how they are experienced. Dr. Neff points out that self-esteem is more egocentric than self-compassion because it involves feelings of specialness and comparing oneself favorably to others.

Self-esteem involves feeling above average and can only be achieved when people do well in the areas of life they value (for example, when they feel good about their physical appearance or academic accomplishments). When these areas do not go well, self-esteem, and mental health, suffer. Another drawback of self-esteem? A sense of superiority can come with it and sets people apart from others, creating a sense of isolation. Self-compassion, on the other hand, involves acknowledging that everyone struggles at times.

When people have self-compassion, they do not rely on external sources of validation, like achievements, to feel valued. Because of this, self-compassion is more constant than self-esteem.

When we have self-compassion, we understand that we are human. We make mistakes, and we do not need to compare ourselves to others in order to feel better. When life does not go as we wish, we do not need to isolate ourselves out of shame.

Instead, we recognize that we are part of humanity, part of a greater whole, and that we are not alone. Even though this feeling of connectedness is rooted in hardship, it is good for our mental health.

If you or your loved one are struggling, please know that you are not alone. For 24/7 crisis support text HELLO to 741-741 or dial 988. Because there is help and there is hope.



Volunteers Needed!





Join the Out of the Darkness Walk Planning Committee!

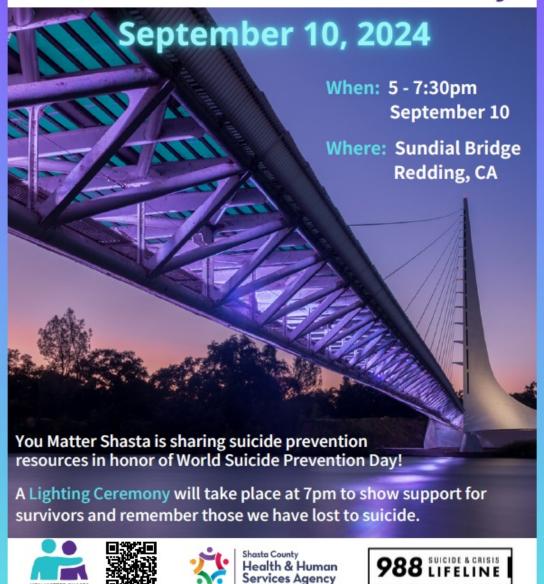
To volunteer, contact ShastaWalks4Hope@gmail.com or call 530-262-8161.

Volunteer support needed! Help plan Shasta County's *Out of The Darkness Walk* for September 7, 2024 to support community members impacted by suicide!

These community walks offer connection and support to those who have been affected by suicide & raise awareness about suicide prevention efforts. The walks also help to raise funds for the vital work of the AFSP program.

Email <u>shastawalks4hope@gmail.com</u> or call 530-262-8161 to learn more about joining the Planning Committee.

LIGHT OF HOPE EVENT World Suicide Prevention Day



This event is funded by the Mental Health Services Act.

HELPING YOUR CHILD FIND BALANCE

Today's youth are pulled in many directions and constantly connected through technology which can impact youth and family mental health.

Mental Health America's webinar - "I don't know how to help my child find balance" - explores practical strategies



and tips to empower parents to help their children maintain a healthy lifestyle and find balance in various aspects of their life.

Check out the webinar here.

IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA ON YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH

Up to 95% of youth between the ages of 13–17 report use a social media platform, with more than a third saying they use social media "almost constantly" as noted by the <u>U.S.</u>
Surgeon General.

With the widespread use of social media among youth, there is a growing concern about its impact on mental health.

The National Training & Technical Assistance Center (NTTAC) for Mental Health provides a summary about the effects of social media on youth mental health and highlights key steps parents, caregivers, and school staff can take to support young people.



View the summary and key action steps here.

REDDING RANCHERIA DISCOVER HEALTH FAIR







Get connected with local resources at the Redding Rancheria Health Fair on August 7!

Learn more about this event here. The You Matter Shasta booth will be sharing mental health and suicide prevention resources. We hope to see you there!

FREE SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAININGS!



2024-2025 SUICIDE PREVENTION EVIDENCE-BASED TRAININGS

- Free for Behavioral Health
 & Medical Professionals
- · CEUs when available

Recognize & support those with suicide risk

These trainings are only available until May 2025, so sign up before they're gone!

Shasta County Health & Human Services Agency's Suicide Prevention Program is offering FREE suicide prevention trainings designed for medical and behavioral health care providers during 2024 and 2025.

Upcoming Training Dates:

- Assessing & Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR)
 - Self-Study Courses: Click here for details.
 - Register for AMSR here!
- Suicide Prevention 201 / 202
 - Live Zoom August 26-27, 2024 OR Self-Study options: Click here for details.
 - Register for SP 201 here!
- Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM)
 - In-person September 6, 2024 (8:30a.m. 12p.m.): Click here for details.
 - Register for CALM here!

Visit <u>YouMatterShasta.org/training</u> for more information.

safeTALK

SUICIDE ALERTNESS FOR EVERYONE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23, 2024 8:30AM - 12:30PM 1400 MARKET ST., REDDING, CA FREE TRAINING WITH CEUS AVAILABLE!

- SafeTALK is a FREE, half-day, in-person workshop.
- Pre-registration is required, as space is limited. **CEUs are available!**
- Learn to recognize and engage with persons having thoughts of suicide and connect them to an intervention resource.
- To register, email <u>sstinger@shastacounty.gov</u> or call Sydney Stinger at (530) 229-8426.





Shasta County
Health & Human
Services Agency

Training provided by Marcia Ramstroin, Lotus Educations.

Services, Inc. in partnership with Shasta County HHSA. Funding for this event is provided through the Mental Health Services Act.

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APPLIED SUICIDE **INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING** OCTOBER 10 & 11, 2024 **8AM - 4PM**

SHASTA COLLEGE - DOWNTOWN CAMPUS 1400 MARKET ST. REDDING, CA

FREE TRAINING WITH CEUS AVAILABLE!

- ✓ ASIST is a FREE, two-day, in-person workshop. Participants MUST attend both days.
- ☑ Pre-registration is required, as space is limited. CEUs are available!
- ☑ Learn to recognize when someone may be at-risk for suicide and work with them to create a plan to support their immediate safety.
- ☑ To register, email <u>sstinger@shastacounty.gov</u> or call Sydney Stinger at (530) 229-8426







Training provided by Marcia Ramstrom, Lotus Educational Services, Inc. in partnership with Shasta County HHSA Funding for this event is provided through the Mental Health Services Act.

Click on the flyers to learn more about the SafeTALK & ASIST trainings and how to register!

988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline



The 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline offers free, confidential support 24/7 to people experiencing mental health-related distress such as:

- Thoughts of suicide
- Mental health or substance use crisis, or
- Any other kind of emotional distress

People can call or text <u>988</u> or chat <u>988lifeline.org</u> for themselves or if they are worried about a loved one.

No matter what challenges you're experiencing, 988 can offer support.

SPEAKING OF SUICIDE (SOS) SUPPORT GROUP



SOS is a peer-led, non-therapeutic, support group for anyone who has lost someone to suicide, struggled with thoughts of suicide themselves, or survived a suicide attempt.

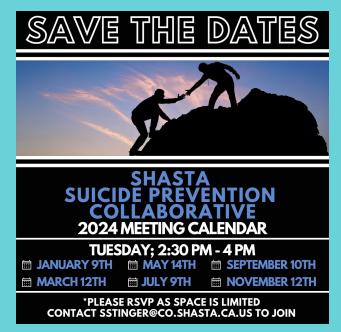
This group provides a safe place where you can openly share your

experiences, hear from others with similar struggles, and have the opportunity to support others.

This is an open meeting for anyone 16 years of age or older.

For more information about SOS, contact Nick Zepponi at NZepponi@hillcountryclinic.org or call 530-691-4446.

GET INVOLVED



Save the dates for the 2024 Shasta Suicide Prevention Collaborative meeting schedule!

The next Collaborative meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 10th, 2024, from 2:30-4PM. Location TBD.

If you would like to receive updates about Collaborative meetings and activities, please email

YouMatterShasta@shastacounty.gov. Add your voice to the discussion on suicide prevention in Shasta County. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Don't forget to like the You Matter Shasta Facebook page for updates and inspirational posts!

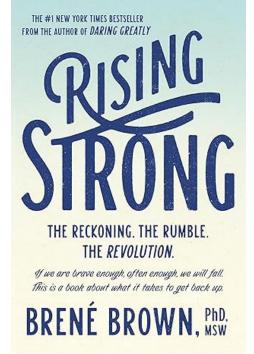
WORTH THE READ

Vulnerability, or the willingness to show up and be seen, can help lead us to a path of love, belonging, creativity, and joy. But living a brave and vulnerable life is not always easy: We are, inevitably, going to stumble and fall.

In the book, *Rising Strong*, author Brene Brown shares stories from people of various backgrounds - leaders, artists, clergy members, couples, and so many more - on what it takes to get back up when we fall.

Through these stories, Brene highlights the importance and power of emotion and not being afraid to lean into discomfort.

In this book, you'll learn to reckon with



your emotions and get curious about what your feeling; *rumble* with your story until you get to a place of truth; and live this process, every day, until it becomes a practice and creates nothing short of a *revolution* in your life.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Captain Awesome Mobile Crisis
Outreach Team

CARE Center

Never a Bother

Friendship Line

Want to learn how to care for your mental wellbeing?

Subscribe to the Community Mental Wellbeing Newsletter!



Newsletter Topics Include

Seasonal Wellness, Brain Health Tips, Mindfulness Tools, Teen Wellbeing Resources and more!



OUR SPONSOR:

The Shasta Suicide Prevention Collaborative is sponsored by Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency in conjunction with our many community partners and advisory boards. Funding for this project is provided through the Mental Health Services Act.



Don't forget to like us on Facebook!





Visit our website

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