MENTAL HEALTH

Sometimes, first aid isn't a bandage, or CPR, or the Heimlich, or calling 911.

Sometimes, first aid is YOU!

A young person you know could be experiencing a mental health challenge or crisis. You can help them.

You are more likely to encounter someone — friend, family member, student, neighbor, or member of the community — in an emotional or mental crisis than someone having a heart attack. Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches a 5-step action plan to offer initial help to young people showing signs of a mental illness or in a crisis, and connect them with the appropriate professional, peer, social, or self help care. Anyone can take the 8-hour Youth Mental Health First Aid course, but it is ideally designed for adults who work with young people, ages 12-18 — teachers, coaches, leaders of faith communities, social workers, and other caring citizens.

Sometimes, the best first aid is you. Take the course, save a life, strengthen your community.







ALGEE, the Mental Health First Aid Action Plan

**A**ssess for risk of suicide or harm **L**isten nonjudgmentally

2: Life in

**G**ive reassurance and information

Encourage appropriate professional help

Encourage self-help and other support strategies

Questions? Contact Goochland Powhatan Community Services at (804) 556-5400 or email rpentecost@goochlandva.us

Mental Health First Aid USA is coordinated by the National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare, the Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the Missouri Department of Mental Health.