

# COUNSELOR CONNECTION

THE MDE COUNSELOR NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

[PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING AND SUPPORT WEBPAGE](#)

## SEPTEMBER: SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

National Suicide Prevention Week – September 4-10

World Suicide Prevention Day- September 10

District Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Training Assurance Form - Due October 31

[New Mental Health Website](#)



## MONTHLY T.I.P. (THEORY IN PRACTICE)

In August, we launched a state-wide initiative focused on "Mental Health". The month of September is National Suicide Prevention month, a time when we focus on our role in suicide prevention. It is important to prevent suicide throughout the year, but during Suicide Prevention Month, school counselors are able to emphasize how important it is to reduce the stigma associated with seeking help, discuss suicidal thoughts, and identify resources that can assist.

In the midst of the pandemic and other external stresses, mental health is among students' top concerns. The suicide rate in the United States and Mississippi is steadily on the rise, and suicide prevention is a critical component of school counseling.

Throughout September and the rest of the year, I would like you to reflect on the following about your practice and counseling program. What are you doing within the counseling program to promote awareness and prevention? Who are the at-risk students? What methods are used to identify students?

When it comes to the social, emotional, and mental distress of students, school counselors are on the front line. To achieve the ethical obligation to protect students, school counselors must maintain current training in:

- Being informed about the signs of suicidal thoughts
- Being knowledgeable about the resources available
- Preparing students, staff, colleagues and parents to recognize warning symptoms for suicidal behavior
- Referring students who demonstrate signs of suicidal thoughts to local community agencies - *Dr. Chancey Fort, P-LPC, SB-RPT, State Director of Counseling and Support Services PK-12*

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*"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel" – Maya Angelou*

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## ASCA 2022 ANNUAL CONFERENCE "NO LIMITS" CEUS

If you attended the ASCA Conference virtual or face-to-face in 2022 and would like CEUs, please complete this [form](#) and email the CEU/contact hours transcript and certificate to [cfort@mdek12.org](mailto:cfort@mdek12.org). CEUs are optional and can be obtained for a fee by the certifying institution. Once the form is completed, more information will be

emailed to you. If you have additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Dr. Chancey Fort at the email mentioned above.

## PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR ADVISORY COUNCIL

2022-2023 – [School Counselor Advisory Council 2022- 2023.docx](#)

## 2022-2023 NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL AND HEALTH

**AWARENESS DATES:** Click [here](#) for a copy.

## **NEW** SCHOOL COUNSELOR PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

**(PGS)** F.Y.I., The Counselor Professional Growth System goes live for the 2022-2023 school year.

## THE MISSISSIPPI INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING (IHL)

The College Preparatory Curriculum (CPC) course listing is available on the MS IHL Admissions webpage: <http://www.mississippi.edu/admissions/curriculum.asp>

## MINDFUL MOMENTS: TEACHER SELF-CARE AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING PODCAST

Proactively plan to have self-care time daily. Purposely schedule time into your calendar daily to ensure your mental wellness is happening within your setting. [Podcast](#)

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### UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

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#### GET2COLLEGE: TOPIC TUESDAY

Updates on Federal (FAFSA) and Mississippi Financial Aid (MAAPP) for 2023-2024:  
September 6, 2022

## MAGNOLIA STATE SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE



Theme: School Counselors: Change Agents

Dates: September 12-13, 2022

Location: Flowood, MS

Registration: [Link](#)

## MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION FALL WORKSHOP



Topic: Mental Health First Aid Training (Virtual Workshop)

Audience: Middle and High School Counselors

Date: September 23, 2022

Register via email: [amwinbur@olemiss.edu](mailto:amwinbur@olemiss.edu)



## NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH: FACEBOOK LIVE EVENT: THE INTERSECTION OF SUICIDE AND SUBSTANCE USE: Date/Time: September 15, 2022, 12:30 -1:00 p.m. ET (11:30 CT)

[Click here to learn about this event](#)

## FALL ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL COUNSELOR INSTITUTE



Dates: September 28 (Elementary) & September 29 (Secondary)

Time: 8:30 am – 4:00 pm (*Registration 8:00 am – 8:30 am*)

Location: Northwest Rankin Middle School/ Performing Arts Building  
5805 Hwy 25 Flowood, MS 39232



### NO PLACE FOR HATE

Date: September 30, 2022

Time: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

[Zoom link](#) (More Information: [www.noplaceforhate.org](http://www.noplaceforhate.org))

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## SAVE THE DATE

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## EAST MISSISSIPPI COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT COLLEGE FAIR

East Mississippi Community College will be hosting a District Wide College Fair on October 4, 2022, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. This fair will include students from Clay, Kemper, Lowndes, Noxubee and Oktibbeha counties. Each school that registers from these counties will be allotted an hour and fifteen minutes to an hour and thirty minutes at the fair. Set up for vendors will begin at 8:00 am. Information is included on the attached flyer.

Registration Link: <https://forms.office.com/r/BW2q1UDZDz>

Registration will close September 16<sup>th</sup>



## MISSISSIPPI COUNSELING ASSOCIATION



Theme: Your MCA: The Future of Our Profession

Location: BancorpSouth Arena & Conference Center, Tupelo, MS

Date: November 9-11, 2022

Registration Link: [MCA Fall Conference 2022](#)

**Deadline to register is October 25, 2022!**

