Symptoms of Students in Crisis

- Sleep and eating disturbances
- Act as if death never happened
- Fear of dark
- Aggressiveness
- Physical Complaints
- Extreme sadness and reluctance to participate in activities

- Loss of appetite
- Regression in behavior
- Withdrawal from family/friends
- School Avoidance
- Delinquent behavior

Suggestions for Assisting Students

- Acknowledge and normalize their feelings. Encourage them to talk but respect their right not to.
- Provide healthy alternative ways for them to express themselves (writing in a journal, drawing, playing music, etc).
- Remind them that everyone has a right to grieve and a right to grieve in their own way.
- Help them understand that people show their emotions differently.
- Try to maintain a normal routine.
- Listen and observe. Share your concerns with appropriate support personnel
- Spend family time together
- Emphasize people's resiliency. Help identify ways they have coped in the past.
- Help your child get plenty of sleep, eat regular meals and exercise
- Remain calm, reassuring
- Openly express your affection to your child
- Do not neglect your own needs.
- Talk to other adults, support personnel, or someone from place of worship.

Where to Get Additional Support

- 911
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255
- School Counselors and School Psychologists
- School Resource Officers