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UPPER DAUPHIN AREA MIDDLE SOHOOL SOHOOL







Helping At-Risk Teens



MENTAL TEALTH CONSCIENT Jeff Seiler

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What is the Student Assistant Program?

Schools are the only institution through which all young people must pass. This gives the school personnel a unique opportunity to identify and help at-risk students.

An at-risk student is one who has an emotional, social, or substance abuse problem which conflicts with the normal learning process. These problems include, but are not limited to the following:

- Academic and behavioral difficulties
- Student neglect or abuse
- Depression & mental health issues
- Substance abuse
- Eating disorders
- Student pregnancy
- Student truancy
- Attempted suicide or self-harm

The SAP Team

The heart of the Student Assistance Program is the specially trained Student Assistance Team. Members of the core team have a common base of knowledge about Student Assistance Programs in relation to adolescent chemical dependency, suicide, and other mental health concerns. All members of the team are trained and certified through Teenline.

This team is not a disciplinary team nor does it provide therapy. The Student Assistance Team identifies and refers students to appropriate sources for help.

The team is committed to the utmost confidentiality in all aspects of the intervention process. Parent permission is required in order to begin the process

The Process

The primary activities of the SAP Team are as follows:

- To receive referrals concerning atrisk students
- To communicate and work with parents and families of referred students
- To gather information and conduct needs assessments for referred students
- To arrange assistance from intervention resources in the school and community

