Faith & Spiritual Leaders and Funeral Directors

U matter because you can help.

Everyone has a place in the big picture.

40% of emotionally distressed people are more likely to turn to a faith leader than to a psychiatrist, physician or psychotherapist.

(Christianson, Journal of California Alliance for Mental illness, Vol. 8)

Professional Recommendations:

- Know the risk factors and warning signs
- Increase your faith community’s role in youth suicide prevention
- Understand how religious traditions influence attitudes toward mental illness, suicide and help-seeking
- Develop good working relationships with mental health professionals
- Consider the special challenges of memorial services, funerals and healing ceremonies for a youth that has died by suicide
- Learn national best practices in restricting access to lethal means, safe messaging and communications about suicide

Based on NAMI NH’s Connect model, www.TheConnectProject.org

UmatterUCanHelp.com
Vermont Suicide Prevention
When the need is urgent, call 1–800–273–TALK (8255).
For information and referral on suicide resources in Vermont, dial 2–1–1.