## BLACK YOUTH SUICIDE: A GROWING CRISIS

Recent research has uncovered alarming trends of puth suicide: in 2019, among young people ages 10 224 years old, suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death/While the increasing rates of suicide among youth has raised concern among health professionals, research has uncovered that the <u>suicide death rate among Black youth and teens</u> has been increasing more rapidly than other racial groups. Rates of suicidal ideation and attempts have also risen, with research showing that the percentages of Blackyouth who considered suicide, made a suicide plan, and/or attempted suicide all increased significantly between 209 and 2019. Factors contributing to youth suicide and prevention measures for black youth are important for researchers, health professionals and other practitioners to address.

THE RATE OF SUICIDE IN BLACK YOUTH < 13 YEARS OLD

**IS APPROXIMATELY** 

2X HIGHER

COMPARED TO

WHITE PEERS

CONSIDERED SUICIDE

**INCREASED FRO** 

12.95% TO 16.89%

2008

**5TH LEADING** 

AMONG

MADE A SUICIDE PLAN

INCREASED FROM

9.79% TO 15.02%

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE

**INCREASED FROM** 

7.94% TO 11.85%

2009 - 2019

BLACK YOUTH 5-18 YEARS OLD

CAUSE OF DEATH

## RACE SPECIFIC STRESSORS

- € Racism
- € Discrimination
- € Historical or intergenerational trauma
- € Systematic oppression

A Longitudinal Study of Racial Discrimination and Risk for Death Ideation in African American Youth

## LACK OF CARE RESOURCES

- € Practitioner bias
- € Practitioner cultural competency and knowledge
- $\in$  Low number of service providers of color

CWS Data Tool: Demographics of the U.S. Psychology Workforce

## RESOURCES

The following organizations provide mental health education and resources for Black youth and families:

<u>Peel Dem Layers Back</u> culturally educates, empowers and equips Black men and boys with essential tools necessary to live a mentally healthy life through a Hip-Hop lens in Cleveland, OH.

AAKOMA Project empowers youth and families of color to manage mental health and influence systems.

4 C Visuals Group (@4cvisualsgroup) seeks to •enlighten, inform, and encourage• through media.Good Bro: Unmasking Black Male Depression"

Life is better with you here provides a list of suicide prevention resources for African American youth.

The National Alliance on Mental Illness supplies mental health education and connections for •Black Mental Health.•

<u>Project LIFT</u> creates a safe space for Black youth, adults, and parents and provides behavioral health, prevention services, resources, and tools.

The Ross Center is dedicated to connecting Black youth to mental health resources within their community.

<u>The Suicide Prevention Resource Center</u> gives resources for education regarding suicide and mental health for Black and African American youth.