



64.1%

of youth with major depression
do not receive any mental
health treatment.

- Mental Health America

## 1 in 5

teens and young adults
lives with a mental
health condition.

- National Alliance for Mental Illness

5.13%

of youth report having a substance use or alcohol problem.

- Mental Health America

# The course will teach you how to apply the ALGEE action plan:

- Assess for risk of suicide or harm.
- Listen nonjudgmentally.
- Give reassurance and information.
- Encourage appropriate professional help.
- Encourage self-help and other support strategies.

### **Why Youth Mental Health First Aid?**

Youth Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illness and substance use disorders in youth. This 6-hour training gives adults who work with youth the skills they need to reach out and provide initial support to children and adolescents (ages 6-18) who may be developing a mental health or substance use problem and help connect them to the appropriate care.

### **Three Learning Options**

- Virtual. First Aiders will complete a 2-hour, self-paced online class, and then participate in a 4-hour, Instructor-led videoconference.
- **Blended Learning.** After completing a 2-hour, self-paced online class, First Aiders will participate in a 4-hour, inperson, Instructor-led class.
- **In-person.** First Aiders will receive their training as an 6.5-hour Instructor-led in-person course.

#### **Who Should Take it**

- Teachers
- School staff
- Coaches
- Camp counselors
- Youth group leaders
- Parents
- People who work with youth

#### **What it Covers**

- Common signs and symptoms of mental illness in this age group, including
  - Anxiety
  - Depression
  - Eating disorders
  - Attention deficit hyperactive disorder (ADHD)
- Common signs and symptoms of substance use
- How to interact with a child or adolescent in crisis
- How to connect the person with help
- NEW: Expanded content on trauma, addiction and self-care and the impact of social media and bullying



As adults, we sometimes forget how hard it was being an adolescent. When we see a kid who is just miserable at school, we might think they choose to be that way — or that it's just part of adolescence. But in fact, they might be in a mental health crisis, one they certainly did not choose and do not want. When a teacher says, 'How can I be helpful?' that is a powerful question."

- Alyssa Fruchtenicht, school-based mental health counselor

