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When Children & Youth are in Crisis, Crisis Response Program Provides 24/7 Support in Lane County

Operating 24/7, and easily reachable via their toll-free number at 1-888-989-9990, The Child Center’s Crisis Response Program is a lifeline for families during the continuing pressures of COVID-19, and added stress of evacuations due to this month’s wildfires. Serving children and youth ages 18 and younger, the Crisis Response Program is a partnership between TCC, Looking Glass Community Services, and Jasper Mountain SAFE Center. Available 24/7 is a team of qualified mental health professionals who can assist children, youth, and their families when a child or teen is experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis.

“This year has been extremely stressful for everyone,” say Sharma Fellows-Rapoport, Program Director of the Crisis Response Program, “we know that many families in our area need support, and want to make sure that they know about our services.” Accessing the program is simple, just call 1-888-989-9990. Day or night, a team of counselors is available to answer the call and work with families to de-escalate the crisis, provide support, and connect families to additional resources, all at no cost. Regardless of where a family lives in Lane County, this service is available.

“In an ideal world, we wouldn’t need crisis intervention for children and youth,” says Lyndsie Leech, Business Development Director for TCC, “but even prior to this year with the added stressors of a pandemic, and now statewide fires, 7.1% of youth ages 3-17 are diagnosed with anxiety, and another 3.2% have been diagnosed with depression according to the CDC. Clearly the young people in our community need support.”

A behavioral/mental health crisis for a child or teen may look like violence towards self or others, severe depression, aggressive or uncontrolled behavior, or other mental or behavioral health issues that cause immediate concern for the safety of the child, youth, or family members. For more information about the program, visit www.thechildcenter.org/crisis-response-program