

## THRIVe Initiative to Improve Access to School-Based Behavioral Health Treatment and Programming

In partnership with



The Need: Challenges of Youth Mental Health in North Carolina:

- In 2020, more than 1 in 10 children aged 3–17 has a diagnosis of anxiety or depression, a 49% increase from 2016.
- Only 28% of North Carolina children with a *diagnosed* mental or behavioral need receive care from a specialized mental health care provider.
- North Carolina ranks 46th nationally in providing appropriate in-school support and accommodations for children with mental health needs.

**Your health department's response:** Granville Vance Public Health Department recently received a grant providing funds to plan with Granville and Vance County Schools, as well as other youth and adolescent community-based programs, to offer some or all the below services for **FREE**.

## Possible services include...

- 2. A "**healthcare navigator**" to help children and parents understand how to access local behavioral health providers.
- 3. **Regular screening** for possible behavioral health needs among students.
- 4. **Behavioral health specialists** to provide therapy to students.
- 5. **Mental Health/Behavioral Health assessments** for students for select school administrators (Nurse, Counselor, etc.) to understand the mental wellbeing of a student at the beginning of the year and a follow-up assessment at the end of the school year.
- Trainings such as Mental Health First Aid, Life and/or Coping Skills, Substance Use Prevention (including, Tobacco use, Vaping, and Opioid use).

- 7. **Parenting training** focused on Naloxone/Narcan administration, how to manage children's behavior calmly, strengthening families, etc.
- 8. **Training for teachers** to know how to better recognize and address the behavioral health needs of their students.
- 9. Access to Naloxone (Narcan) in the schools
- 10. Afterschool programming.
- 11. **Peer support mentoring program** for parents of children with behavioral health disorders.
- 12. "Calming rooms"—special spaces to help students take a break, defuse anger, and re-center outside of the classroom.

## For questions, please email Wendy Smith (wsmith@gvph.org)



*Call,* **text** or chat **988** to talk to someone ready give you the **mental health** help you need. **No** matter what you're going through, we're here to listen and understand.