

As for being a State Worker in the mental health system for 23 yrs. I can tell you that public services are very limited for people to access. Emergency Rooms for the most part turn an individual away who is in need of mental health services. For one thing the nurses in the E.R. perhaps look at a form and not symptoms or simply does not "see" urgent mental health issues. Mental Health professionals are needed as being more mainstream in our society. As a mental health professional when I mentor kids at a public school there are signs and symptoms of mental health distress being exhibited by the students. If you work in the field it is easier to recognize. Social workers and even psychologist in the school system have a very limited exposure to mental health issues, usually on a daily basis. They are also not familiar with community crisis centers and supports. All tragic episodes with firearms have one main factor in common, mental instability. There are most definitely signs and symptoms of the individual prior to an incident. Well I must go back to work. Hope this is of some help anyway. Regards Joyce Fostini.

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