## Suicide Prevention Awareness in Rural North Carolina

Amelia Muse, PhD, LMFT Director, Center of Excellence for Integrated Care Foundation for Health Leadership & Innovation





# Leading Causes of Death in North Carolina

- 1. Cancer
- 2. Heart Disease
- 3. Accidents
- 4. Chronic Lower Respiratory Diseases
- 5. Stroke
- 6. Alzheimer's Disease
- 7. Diabetes
- 8. Kidney Disease
- 9. Influenza/Pneumonia
- 10. Septicemia
- 11. Suicide



#2 for ages 10-34

### COVID19 & Rural Mental Health

#### **Rural + Pandemic Risks**

- Social distancing and isolation
- Economic stress
- Barriers to mental health care
  - Access and stigma
- Constant and pervasive anxiety and uncertainty

#### **Rural Populations of Concern**

- Agricultural
- Youth
- LGBTQ+



Prevention Awareness

 Suicide Prevention Lifeline's #BeThe1To Campaign

Language

- From survivors:
  - Your feelings are valid
  - It won't feel like this forever
  - You are worthy of help



### If you or someone you know is thinking about suicide, PLEASE contact

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

1-800-273-TALK (1-800-273-8255)

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org