MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents
   Principals
   Instructional Leaders
   Directors of Guidance

FROM: Sabrina B. Moore, PhD
       Director, Office of Student Intervention Services

DATE: April 6, 2020

RE: Suicide Awareness and Prevention Online Course

The South Carolina Department of Mental Health (DMH), in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Education, is providing district and school staff free access to Signs Matter: Early Detection. The two-hour, self-paced virtual course shows educators how and when to express concern and refer students to counseling staff or administration.

More specifically, Signs Matter training includes
- A close look at the most common mental health problems and how they typically present in a school setting;
- Real-world scenarios in an elementary, middle, and high school setting to help you better identify students in need of help;
- An online evidence-based assessment tool to ensure that all participants have gained an understanding of the material covered;
- Resources for understanding a school’s role in suicide prevention; and
- A review of legal requirements for schools to keep in mind.

Please share this opportunity with school and district staff and encourage participation. Individuals may register for the two-hour, self-paced course via the following link: Signs Matter: Early Detection Registration.

All registered individuals will receive instructions via email for accessing the course from the DMH’s Office of Suicide Prevention within approximately one week. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Butler, Office of Suicide Prevention Program Director, at Jennifer.butler@scdmh.org.