

Trauma and Loss

Children can experience intense responses to trauma, death, and stress. There is a range of emotions and behaviors children can display that let everyone know how they are doing. As children grow they learn good coping skills, but many need some help along the way. Here are some behaviors that may signal that a child is having difficulty.

Emotional...

- Fearfulness
- Frequent awakening nightmares
- Sleeping, waking difficulties
 - Refusal to eat normally
- Refusal to separate from parents
 - Depression, hopelessness
 - Suicidal threats or ideation

Social...

- Isolation and withdrawal
 - Aggression
- Excessive problems with cooperation
- Increased difficulties with peers
- Excessive dependence upon adults or others

Behavioral...

- Regression
- Destructive play
- Verbal or physical abuse of others
- Difficulties with concentration
 - Excessive distractibility
- Provocative, attention-seeking behaviors
 - Excessive risk taking

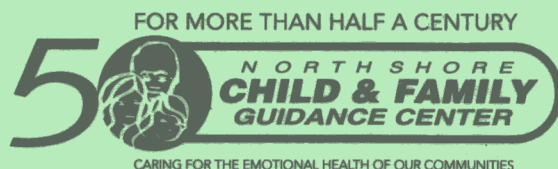
Physical...

- Excessive activity
- Major weight loss or gain
- Self-inflicted injuries
 - Substance abuse
- Somatic complaints

Emergency Services...

Our Triage Unit's mission is to provide assessment and intervention within 24 hours for individuals and families in crisis. In a crisis there is a major disruption in family life. Pain, confusion, and turmoil is created. Through rapid response, we attempt to avoid the potential for self injury or harm to others; decrease suffering; and maximize the potential for positive outcomes. Services available through our Triage Unit are:

- Assessment and intervention within 24 hours of contact
 - Goal of stabilizing the crisis and restoring functioning
 - A supportive, non-threatening, private environment
 - Assessment of an individual or family's strengths and natural ability to cope



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