

January 27th 2021

To: All Weber County Sports Complex Visitors,

The Utah Hockey community has experienced the loss of a player recently and as a facility we feel it is our duty to encourage everyone in our Rink Family to take a moment to pause and reflect on how we can support each other better.

The last ten months have been nothing short of strange, stressful, unfamiliar and challenging for our communities. As a County-owned facility we made the choice to remain operable during a community health crisis that quickly changed every area of our lives and impacted our daily activities. We are proud of our choice to maintain access to our facility and our staff's willingness to support local leaders by upholding & putting into practice all guidelines that have allowed us to safely operate.

While upholding those guidelines to keep your community center accessible we have maintained our on-going mission to "Provide a safe & atmosphere for all of our patrons." As we successfully carry out our mission as a training center within the ice-sport community we believe each facility in Utah relies on this strength to provide a safe and fun environment for all of our shared leagues, of all ages. We agree that even one loss is too great and we must all do better.

As we mourn the loss of a member of our Utah High School Hockey Community, please take a moment to check in on your teammates, Rink Family & friends, regardless of what team they play on, or which league they are in, and have a conversation about how you may be able to help ease their burdens.

We acknowledge and respect the differing opinions on how households may handle crisis and the mourning process. Please consider opening the dialogue with your team leadership and having age-appropriate team meetings with Trustee approval and parental involvement that introduces skaters & players to resources within our community that have the expertise to assist in the mourning process.

Resources are also available to those experiencing stress and crisis, please reach out if you need help. Our rink community is here to support each of you.

If your team requires a meeting space for a team meeting, please reach out to Crystal Monzella to book a meeting room: cmonzella@webercountyutah.gov

The following resources are available within Weber County. Whether you live here, play here or are just visiting, please reach out to our community professionals if you need help:

1. Crisis hotline: 1-800-273-8255
2. Suicide Prevention Online: www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org
3. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). This is a national resource but has some really helpful information. <https://afsp.org/ive-lost-someone>
4. Live On Utah. <https://liveonutah.org/ive-lost-someone/>
5. We have a local Suicide Loss Support Group, Legacy. They usually meet in Ogden but are doing zoom meetings at this time; <https://nuhopeutah.org/survivors>
6. Employee Assistance Program. For employees of Weber County, the EAP is a great resource. They can provide counseling services and work with you as an employer to help you navigate this difficult time. It is a free benefit for all employees, their partners, and their dependents. <https://intermountainhealthcare.org/services/employee-assistance-program/>

Sincerely,

Mariko Rollins