# Mental Health Resources for Parents for Remote Learning

"Published reports have suggested that COVID-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on children's mental health" (Leeb et al., 2020).

COVID-19 has had a negative impact in the following ways including and not limited to (CDC, 2020):

- Changes in routine
- Breaks in continuity of learning
- Loss of security and safety
- Missing significant life events

There has been a notable rise in children's mental health-related Emotional Disturbance (ED) pediatric visits since April 2020. The rate of children's mental health-related ED visits have increased and remained elevated through October. When compared to the 2019 statistics around mental-health related visits children aged 5-11 and 12-17 years have increased approximately 24% and 31%, respectively (Leeb et al., 2020)



### Important Hotlines

- Local Emergency Services: 911
- Orange County Crisis Assessment Team (if you believe you are at risk of hurting yourself or others:

(866) 830-6011

- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741 to connect with a crisis counselor
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline:

(800) 273-TALK (8255)

• Disaster Distress Helpline (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration):

(800)-985-5990

- Sexual Assault: **(800) 656-HOPE (4673)**
- National Runaway Switchboard:

(800) RUNAWAY (786-2929)

National Human Trafficking Hotline:

(888) 373-7888

 TREVOR Lifeline (LGBTQ focus): (866) 488-7386

### Virtual Calming Resources

The following are a list of virtual calming resources for your child to use to cope with stress and practice mindfulness during COVID-19:

#### **Practicing Gratitude Video**

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqbHs4dNw1s&feature=emb\_title

#### Long Beach Aquarium Coral Reef Cam

https://www.aquariumofpacific.org/exhib its/webcams/webcam\_tropical\_reef

#### The Calm App for Mediation and Sleep

https://www.calm.com/blog/about

#### **Kids Meditation Videos**

https://www.youtube.com/playlist? list=PLZnnWZRQ21N5\_bgzO7r5hUxQGb3 6bNNE9

#### **Teen Meditation Videos**

http://mindfulnessforteens.com/guidedmeditations/

#### **Art Activities**

http://toytheater.com/category/art/

## Modeling and Promoting Emotional Wellbeing

Here are some suggestions on how to build positive social emotional development and behaviors during distance learning.:

- Create/model a consistent routine for your child and follow through with it.
- Set home expectations by teaching and communicating with your child.
- Take breaks from technology through stretching, exercising or going on walks with your child.
- Model healthy behaviors for your child and teach your child how to cope with stresses.
- Encourage your child to practice gratitude (e.g., a gratitude journal, or jar)
- Help children see emotion in others and maintain connections with family/friends though options like
  Zoom

