Sandy Hook PROMISE

Say Something Anonymous Reporting System - Parent Guide

My Role as a Parent or Caregiver

SAY SOMETHING
ANONYMOUS REPORTING SYSTEM

Program Overview

The *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System (ARS) program empowers students, parents, caregivers, and other Trusted Adults affiliated with schools that partner with Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) to:

- Be Upstanders, "say something" when they recognize threats, concerning behaviors, or other potential warning signs
- Quickly reach specially trained counselors at the Sandy Hook Promise National Crisis Center who are available 24/7/365 to provide immediate help

Accessed through a downloadable app, telephone hotline, or website, the *Say Something* ARS tool is only available to individuals whose affiliated schools are engaged in an active SHP partnership, as specialized training is required for all participating school personnel, as well as for the local law enforcement and emergency service members who would respond to ARS calls.

Check out this video to see what the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System looks like for students.

Parents and Caretakers – What Is Your Role?

Leading by Example

A Trusted Adult is someone who students can go to for help. As parents and caregivers, you are the Trusted Adults students look to. Yet you may sometimes need support, too. While we empower students to "say something" to a Trusted Adult, we also empower Trusted Adults to use the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System to report concerning behaviors. Reporting critical warning signs is not just the responsibility of students, but also parents and caregivers like you. Through the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System, you can submit a tip and speak directly to a crisis center counselor who will help you assess the warning signs you believe you recognized. They will then advise you on how to address the situation, including who to contact and next steps.

Check out this student video to see what a conversation with a crisis center counselor looks like for Trusted Adults.

How do I submit a tip as a parent or caregiver?

While you can submit a tip online or by phone, the easiest way is through your mobile device. It only takes a minute to download and install the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System app on your phone.

Learn more about the different ways to submit a tip here.

If you'd like to see how to submit a tip, watch the following *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System video (Spanish).

Interested in more detailed information about the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System? Download a 16-page printable PDF here.

What does using the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System app as a parent or caregiver look like?

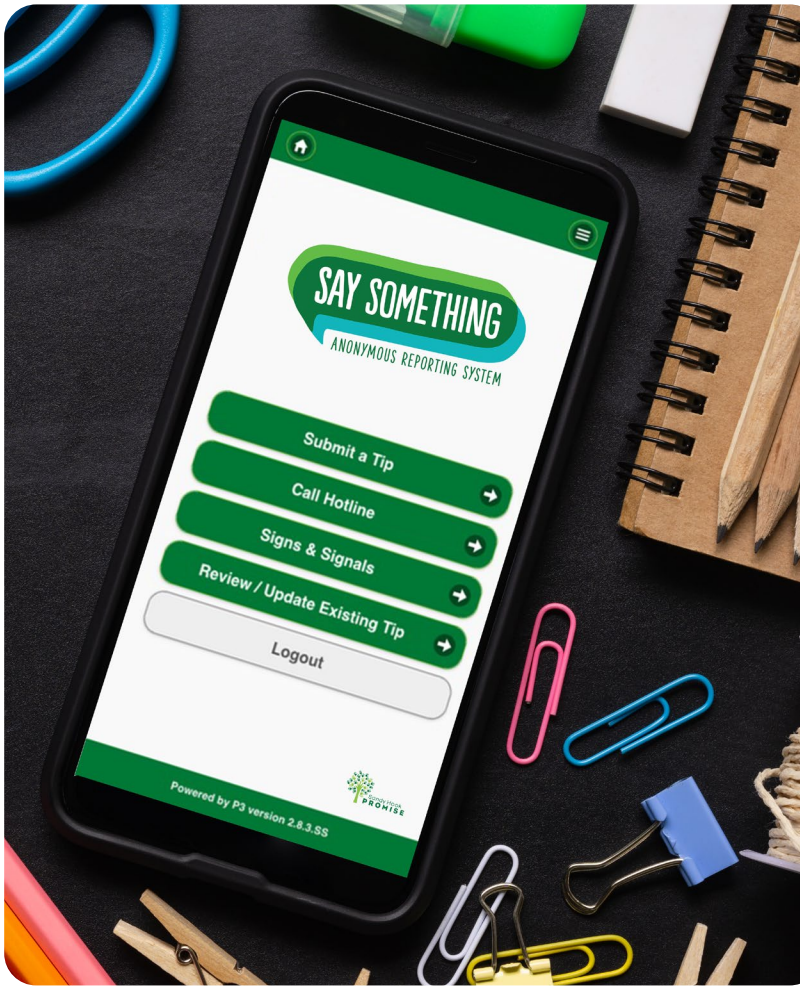
Mr. Flores regularly picks up his daughter Silvia, and her friends Alex and Quinn, from their after-school club. When the three girls first joined the club, Quinn was thrilled to participate in the student talent show contest. She created a video of her singing and dancing to her own song. However, for the past two weeks, Mr. Flores has arrived at school to find Quinn not laughing and smiling as she leaves with her friends but waiting outside alone. Tutoring was keeping her from attending club meetings. On this day in the car, as Silvia and Alex chat about the talent show videos posted online, Quinn sits silently. So, Mr. Flores asks her about her song.

"It's fine," Quinn quickly replies. Just as quickly, Silvia and Alex reveal classmates have been teasing Quinn about her dance. Upset that Silvia and Alex have shared this, Quinn storms out of the car when they arrive at her home and accidentally leaves her phone behind.

After Mr. Flores drops off Alex, he begins to talk to his daughter, Silvia, about what is happening. When they arrive home, he notices Quinn's phone. Hoping he can use it to call Quinn's mother, he presses the "on" button. The first thing he sees is that Quinn's Notes app is open, and that the title of the first note says, "Goodbye, I cannot take this any longer. I am going to end my life tonight."

Still in the driveway, Mr. Flores tells Silvia to go inside while he unloads things from the car. He knows Quinn was home alone most of this week while her father was out of town and her mother worked until midnight. Worried that Quinn's mother and father won't answer their phones, Mr. Flores decides he needs support. He remembers the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System app that the school uses and downloads it on his phone. Within minutes, he is able to submit a tip about the concerning message he found on Quinn's phone and is even able to send a picture of the note as part of the tip. He is quickly connected to a trained counselor, with whom he's able to share the details he knows.

At the end of the call, Mr. Flores receives a case number, so he is able to follow up with a crisis center counselor, if needed, to ensure Quinn receives the help she needs.



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Questions?

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