Ontario Dress Purple Day: Lesson 4

Activity: Organizations and Resources that Support Youth

Grade Range: Grades 7-12	

Task Time: 30-40 minutes

Activity Objective:

The objective of this activity is for students to explore the websites of various organizations that offer helpful resources targeted at youth.

Materials Needed:

- Internet access
- Whiteboard/screen and projector
- Handout that lists organizations and resources that help youth

*Note: Facilitators should familiarize themselves with the resources before this activity

Activity Description:

1. Explain to students that there are various organizations that exist to support youth if they need help from an adult with a problem or worry. Tell them that you are going to take them through a website you have chosen so they can see in detail how one organization offers helpful services to youth.

2. Explain that once you have finished going through a website, you will ask students to break up into groups and explore the website of an organization from the list of resources you handed out.

3. Project the website onto a screen and take the students through the different functions on the website. For example, highlight the phone number for counselling and the online chat function if they are provided. Click on the content button to reveal the different topics.

4. Divide students into groups and assign them an organization's website from the list of resources. Ask students to look at ways these organizations and resources can be helpful, but also how they might be unhelpful.

5. Ask each group to come up to the front to present the ways in which their organization can be helpful or not helpful. Project the website on the screen while they talk.

Adaptations:

- Break up this activity into two separate classroom sessions. Spend the first session getting students familiar with the website that you have chosen to review with the class. During the next classroom session ask students to explore the websites of other organizations that help youth.

Comments and/or Additional Resources:

- Provide a list of the resources explored to each student and ensure one is posted somewhere easily visible in the classroom and/or around the school.