

“Students Against Violence” app launched

Special to The Clinton Courier

Students struggling with depression, bullying, drug use, and other problems common among teens now have access to an app that was recently launched by the Mississippi Attorney General.

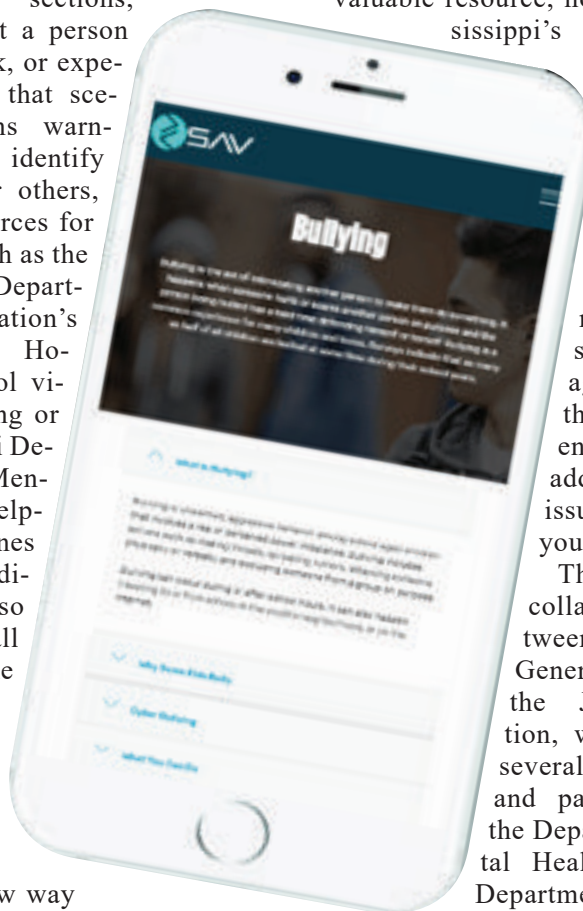
The “Students Against Violence” app is a place where students who are struggling with thoughts of suicide or are in a home where there is domestic violence can turn to local and national resources to help them through such situations. The app includes categories for depression/anxiety, self-harm, suicide prevention, youth drug abuse, bullying, school violence, teen dating violence, domestic violence, underage drinking and electronic cigarettes.

“I know kids won’t go look at our office’s website for brochures that we have on these topics, so we decided an app like this would be a better way to reach them,” Attorney General Jim Hood said. “I hope kids who don’t feel comfortable talking to someone in person about their problems will be able to use this as a first step, recognize their problem, and find a way to address it.”

The app, which is available for free

download on iPhone and Android phones, breaks out the situations into separate sections, describes what a person may feel, think, or experience during that scenario, explains warning signs to identify in yourself or others, and lists resources for more help, such as the Mississippi Department of Education’s “Connections” Hotline for school violence reporting or the Mississippi Department of Mental Health’s Helpline. The phone numbers are directly linked so the user can call from within the app.

Developers say the information isn’t new, it’s just being presented in a new way to students who do everything from the palm of their hand.



“I am proud that...Mississippi [is] the first in the nation to provide this valuable resource, not only for Mississippi’s youth but for

those who work with youth,” said Jason Foundation President Clark Flatt. “I am proud that so many of Mississippi’s state agencies lent their support to enable this app to address so many issues facing our youth.”

The project is a collaboration between the Attorney General’s office and the Jason Foundation, with input from several state agencies and partners such as the Department of Mental Health, Mississippi Department of Education, Mississippi chapter of the National Alliance on

Mental Illness, and The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi. The Jason Foundation, Inc. is a group dedicated to the prevention of the silent epidemic of youth suicide through educational and awareness programs that equip young people, educators, youth workers, and parents with the tools and resources to help identify and assist at-risk youth.

Have you been bullied? Feel down about yourself? Know someone in an abusive relationship? This app helps you overcome those situations and more. The Students Against Violence (SAV) app enables you to take a stand against violence in your school or community with helpful information on bullying, teen dating violence, domestic violence, school violence, self-harm/suicide, depression/anxiety, youth drug abuse, electronic cigarettes and underage drinking.

Visit www.studentsagainstvience.app to download the app.

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