## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## KyleCares and The Jed Foundation Partner to Enroll Three Massachusetts High Schools in Program to Support Student Mental Health

The announcement comes during Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. The partnership will collaborate in recruiting and enrolling additional high schools in Massachusetts and Rhode Island to improve mental health and prevent suicide among students.

NEW YORK, Sept 14, 2021 — KyleCares Foundation and The Jed Foundation (JED) today announced enrolling three high schools in Massachusetts as part of the JED High School Program to improve mental health and prevent suicide among teens. As students are getting back to school and observing Suicide Prevention Awareness Month, JED will begin working with Millis High School, North Attleboro High School, and Attleboro High School to develop long-term strategies surrounding student mental health. The program will also provide schools with funding and resources to strengthen their behavioral health system and is dedicated to helping schools evaluate and build out their students' mental health, substance misuse, and suicide prevention programming and systems.

As students are returning to in-person schooling and are faced with uncertainty amid the surging Delta variant, <u>research</u> reports that one in four youth globally are experiencing clinically elevated depression symptoms, while one in five youth are experiencing clinically elevated anxiety symptoms. Mental health programs supported and provided by KyleCares and JED are needed now more than ever. The three schools join Medway High School, another JED High School located in Massachusetts.

"The power of The Jed Foundation and KyleCares together has made an immediate impression on Millis High School," said **Millis Public School Superintendent Robert Mullaney**. "KyleCares has consistently and effectively assisted Millis High School as we address suicide prevention and the mental health and wellness of our students, and we

are excited to begin our work with JED High School to help us support our students as they navigate the many social and emotional challenges they face every day."

"KyleCares aims to connect schools with valuable mental health resources, facilitate conversation around long-term strategies, and fund mental health and suicide prevention programs," said **KyleCares President and Co-founder Jim Johnson**. "Our partnership with JED allows us to confidently lead every conversation by first recommending JED's evidence-based approach as a critical, impactful roadmap for high schools to follow."

"We are excited to partner with KyleCares to help high schools better support the mental health of students in the Massachusetts area as they return to school," said **JED CEO John MacPhee**. "Having a local partner on the ground like KyleCares will allow us to protect more youth in the Massachusetts and Rhode Island area."

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## **About KyleCares Foundation**

KyleCares is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting open and honest communication about the mental health challenges experienced by teens and young adults in today's society. The foundation aims to eliminate student self-harm and suicide by creating school environments where students and their caregivers have the confidence and support to seek help without shame or hesitation. For more information about KyleCares, please visit kylecaresinc.org.

## **About The Jed Foundation (JED)**

JED is a nonprofit that protects emotional health and prevents suicide for our nation's teens and young adults. We're partnering with high schools and colleges to strengthen their mental health, substance misuse, and suicide prevention programs and systems. We're equipping teens and young adults with the skills and knowledge to help themselves and each other. We're encouraging community awareness, understanding, and action for young adult mental health. Learn more at jedfoundation.org. Connect with JED: Email | Twitter | Facebook | Instagram | YouTube | LinkedIn