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**Parent / Caretaker Communication**

\*\* This is a **SAMPLE** letter for communicating to parents/caretakers about the *HearMeWA Program*. **Customization required**. \*\*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_ Families:

We are committed to creating and sustaining a comprehensive, coordinated effort to improve the overall safety and well-being of our students, educators, and administrators.

Doing this effectively requires a proactive approach with programs that equip students, parents, teachers, administrators, local law enforcement, mental health and other professionals to take meaningful action to protect students.

**Today, I am happy to announce our partnership with the *HearMeWA Statewide Program*.**

HearMeWA is a holistic program that meets youth’s safety and well-being needs by linking them to existing support systems. It receives and responds to a wide range of reports from youth and concerned adults regarding any risk or potential risk to the safety and well-being of youth. This program is FREE, available statewide, provides support to youth 24/7/365, offers an app, text, chat, and phone line, and serves youth up to the age of 25.

Youth have the option to file a report anonymously. Identifying information such as name, age or address is not required to contact the program.

Specifically, youth or concerned adults can contact HearMeWA to talk about:

* Warning signs of someone who may be at-risk of harming themselves or others.
* Any struggles youth are facing, including but not limited to bullying, anxiety, stress, and depression.
* Community resources such as housing and peer support.

HearMeWA partners with the Sandy Hook Promise National Crisis Center (SHP), which has trained Crisis Counselors triaging all the reports coming in. SHP serves 3.5 million youth (not including Washington) across the country. It operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. This crisis center runs similar programs in other states around the country and is the only crisis center dedicated solely to school-based, anonymous reporting.

If you have questions or concerns, please call or email me directly at [contact info].

Sincerely,

**NAME**

**TITLE**