Teenage Suicide in the Kanto Region of Japan
Kat Cochran, Justin Koh, Michaela Sorrento, Lauren Wach
Advisors: Professor Stoddard and Professor Rao

Problem
Teen suicide rates in Japan are among the highest in the world.

Why is this a problem?
Teen suicide rates in Japan are the among the highest in the world.
Suicide is normalized in Japan.
Seppuku, a form of ritual suicide, makes it seem honorable.

Current Solutions
The Japanese government has important partnerships with organizations that provide various suicide prevention and awareness programs.

A spike of suicide rates in September is caused by the stress of the start of the school year.

Our Solution
Interactive Awareness Program

Part 1
Teach students how to identify suicidal signs and help solidify the importance of taking care of mental health
Those who attend an awareness program will be twice as likely to perceive suicidal signs and step in to help others
Gatekeepers are students who are trained through the program in order to help their peers in need

Part 2
A rooftop garden will allow students to access nature and reap the benefits connected with spending time outdoors.

Implementation
• Begin creating awareness program modeled after WPI Student Support Network program
• Start scheduling program as a daily part of school routine
• Have the plans approved to build the rooftop garden on one high school as a test case
• Begin building rooftop garden
• Monitor the success of the program by distributing surveys through the test school
• Collect government statistics focusing on the rate of teenage suicide

Assessments
Qualitative
Intuitive survey that is distributed school wide to get direct feedback from students

Quantitative
Yearly statistics on suicide collected by the Government to see the effective of the solution

References

Qualitative
Intuitive survey that is distributed school wide to get direct feedback from students

Quantitative
Yearly statistics on suicide collected by the Government to see the effective of the solution

Interactive Awareness Program Gatekeepers are students who are trained through the program in order to help their peers in need
A rooftop garden will allow students to access nature and reap the benefits connected with spending time outdoors.

Part 1
Teach students how to identify suicidal signs and help solidify the importance of taking care of mental health
Those who attend an awareness program will be twice as likely to perceive suicidal signs and step in to help others
Gatekeepers are students who are trained through the program in order to help their peers in need

Part 2
A rooftop garden will allow students to access nature and reap the benefits connected with spending time outdoors.

Implementation
• Begin creating awareness program modeled after WPI Student Support Network program
• Start scheduling program as a daily part of school routine
• Have the plans approved to build the rooftop garden on one high school as a test case
• Begin building rooftop garden
• Monitor the success of the program by distributing surveys through the test school
• Collect government statistics focusing on the rate of teenage suicide

Assessments
Qualitative
Intuitive survey that is distributed school wide to get direct feedback from students

Quantitative
Yearly statistics on suicide collected by the Government to see the effective of the solution

References

Qualitative
Intuitive survey that is distributed school wide to get direct feedback from students

Quantitative
Yearly statistics on suicide collected by the Government to see the effective of the solution

Interactive Awareness Program Gatekeepers are students who are trained through the program in order to help their peers in need
A rooftop garden will allow students to access nature and reap the benefits connected with spending time outdoors.

Part 1
Teach students how to identify suicidal signs and help solidify the importance of taking care of mental health
Those who attend an awareness program will be twice as likely to perceive suicidal signs and step in to help others
Gatekeepers are students who are trained through the program in order to help their peers in need

Part 2
A rooftop garden will allow students to access nature and reap the benefits connected with spending time outdoors.