

The Role of Schools in Preventing Suicide

Presented by:

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Learning Objectives:

- Outline the steps schools/districts should take to identify and respond to students at risk of suicide
- Review screening tools for identifying suicide risk in the school setting
- Discuss evidenced-based interventions for responding to students at-risk
- Conduct an inventory of suicide prevention strategies at the district, school, and community levels

Presentation Outline:

- 1) Overview of the scope of the problem of youth suicide
 - Alexandra's Story
 - Person-centered language
 - Youth Risk Behavior Survey Data
 - Scope and Severity of the problem
- 2) Risk and Protective Factors
 - Warning Signs
 - Groups at higher risk for suicide
 - Cultural factors/stigma and fear
- 3) Model School Policies & Procedures
 - A Prepared School
 - Checklist of Suicide Prevention Activities
 - School-based suicide prevention programs
 - Matrix of School-Based Suicide Prevention
- 4) Education and Training
 - SAMHSA and ISBE standards
 - Suicide Screening vs. Assessment
 - Assessment Tools
 - Advanced Training (ASIST, AMSR, RRSR, QPRT) for nurses/social workers
 - Suicide Prevention Education (Staff, Parent, Student)
- 5) School-Community Partnerships
 - Outpatient Behavioral Health Providers
 - School-based clinics
 - School-based services
 - Hospital Partnerships (Inpatient Providers)
 - Best Practices Example: Elyssa's Mission
 - Crisis Response

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