

SCHOOL-BASED SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Wisconsin's youth suicide rate is consistently among the highest in the nation. We lose an average of one young person age 10-19 every 10 days to suicide; it is the second leading cause of death, and accounts for almost 1 in 5 of all deaths among Wisconsin youth. The most recent multi-year analysis of national data (CDC, 1999-2007) puts Wisconsin's rate 14th highest for ages 10-19.

DPI offers free, continually-updated workshops to help schools improve suicide prevention efforts and meet the requirements of state law. The training can be provided in your area, and includes school-tested, comprehensive, **evidence-based prevention and curriculum materials!** We have recently added new prevention programs, **a middle-school health class curriculum**, and additional resources. This workshop helps you understand the scope of youth suicide and what schools can do to reduce suicidal acts and thoughts among students. Participants learn about the prevalence of youth suicide, risk and protective factors, comprehensive prevention programs, and crisis intervention. **State law requires school districts to provide specific classroom instruction in youth suicide prevention and to annually notify staff about DPI's resources.** We discuss the state requirements, and help you gain new knowledge and skills to improve classroom instruction at the middle- and high-school level. You will participate in authentic, performance-based assessments—strategies to help students understand suicide and demonstrate their knowledge. We share a variety of effective and inexpensive classroom programs.

This workshop is not intended to train all school staff, but prepares teams of pupil services staff, health educators, and administrators to plan, prevent, and intervene at their schools. Action planning is integrated into all phases of the training program. A model workshop for all school staff is provided. **Attendees are encouraged to bring their suicide crisis response plans for discussion and revision.**

Anyone can schedule and sponsor this one-day workshop. Training runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. To schedule, decide what date(s) you have available for the training and contact Brenda Jennings at DPI at (608) 266-7051. Trainers are DPI staff. Reservations should be made early, because trainer availability is limited. Groups must number at least 20, with larger groups strongly encouraged. Also feel free to contact us to find scheduled workshops in your area, to schedule a new workshop, or for contact information to schedule a workshop through your CESA.

Local sponsors are responsible for recruiting participants, reservations, training site logistics, meals, and refreshments. Technical requirements include a DVD player, an LCD projector, screen, computer speakers, and a wireless lapel microphone. Handouts and other materials are provided by DPI. Local sponsors may charge a nominal fee adequate to cover their expenses (meals, promotion, etc.), but this is not intended to be a for-profit event. Scholarships are encouraged.

<i>Requirements from WI Statute 118.01 (2) (d) (7): Suicide Prevention Education</i>	<i>DPI Curriculum</i>	<i>SOS High School</i>	<i>SOS Middle School</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the skills needed to make sound decisions 	√		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge of the conditions which may cause and the signs of suicidal tendencies 	√	√	√
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge of the relationship between youth suicide and the use of alcohol and controlled substances 	√	√	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> knowledge of the available community youth suicide prevention and intervention services 	√		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> instruction shall be designed to help prevent suicides by pupils by promoting the positive emotional development of pupils 	√	√	√

Schools implementing only the SOS High School or Middle School Programs do not meet all of the curriculum requirements of state law. DPI's curriculum was specifically designed to do so.

<i>Requirements from WI Statute 115.365: Assistance to schools for suicide prevention programs</i>	<i>DPI Training Provides:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> enable and encourage schools to develop programs designed to prevent suicide 	A comprehensive 3-tiered prevention model of evidence-based programs with a strong action planning component
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> how to assist minors in positive emotional development which will help prevent suicidal tendencies 	Programs to develop strong problem-solving, social, and violence-prevention skills
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the detection, by minors, staff and parents, of conditions which indicate suicidal tendencies 	Screening at 3 levels of prevention and intervention; staff gatekeeper training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the proper action to take when there is reason to believe that a minor is suicidal or is contemplating suicide 	A comprehensive discussion of, and action planning for, suicide crisis response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the coordination of school suicide prevention programs/activities with state and local agencies 	Information about state and local resources
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> each school shall inform their professional staff of the resources available from DPI and other sources regarding suicide prevention 	The current model notice is provided

<i>Requirements from Title IV Part A (4): Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act</i>	<i>DPI Training Provides:</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> prevention activities that are designed to create and maintain safe, disciplined, and drug-free environments 	A comprehensive 3-tiered prevention model of evidence-based programs with a strong action planning component
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a crisis management plan for responding to violent or traumatic incidents on school grounds 	A comprehensive discussion and action planning for crisis response specifically geared to suicide prevention