

SCHOOL-BASED SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

Wisconsin DPI offers 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, an updated 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 and skill-based 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 gatekeeper training for all school staff is modeled. Attendees are encouraged to bring their suicide crisis response plans for discussions.

Anyone can schedule and host this six-hour workshop. 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; and reservations should be made as early as possible, as trainer availability is limited. Groups must number at least 20, with larger groups and/or school teams strongly encouraged. Also, feel free to contact DPI to find scheduled workshops in your area.

Hosts are responsible for recruiting participants, handling reservations, coordinating training site logistics, and arranging meals and/or refreshments as necessary. Technical requirements include a computer, a DVD player, an LCD projector, screen, computer speakers/house sound, and a wireless lapel microphone. Handouts and other materials are provided by DPI. Local hosts may charge a nominal fee to recover 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 	✓	✓	✓

*SOS is an acronym for the Signs of Suicide program available through Screening for Mental Health.

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 using 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 as a means for 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 planning for suicide crisis response; including suicide prevention, intervention, and response to suicide death
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the coordination of school suicide prevention programs/activities with state and local agencies 	Information about national, 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 	A copy of the current model notice