COLORADO SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOURCES FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

A GUIDE FOR SCHOOLS



This guide includes a variety of resources that address suicide prevention and intervention for youth. It is a compilation of information and not an endorsement of any specific program or services. Programs reviewed by and listed with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (NREPP) and/or the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC-EBPP) have been noted.

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) does not endorse any program or services contained in this guide. This guide provides information resources for further investigation by a district and/or school before implementation in their community. Any program should be considered with adequate staff training and available school and community intervention resources.

This information was compiled April 2010 and may be subject to change.

Programs reviewed by and listed with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (NREPP) and/or the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC-EBPP) have been noted.

- NREPP = National Registry of Evidenced Based Programs, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA)
- SPRC-EBPP = Suicide Prevention Resource Center Evidenced Based Prevention Programs.

 Rated as follows:
 - ✓ **Section I**: **Evidence-Based Programs** This section contains interventions that have undergone rigorous evaluation and have demonstrated positive outcomes.
 - ✓ **Section II: Expert and Consensus Statements** This section lists statements that summarize the current knowledge in the field and provide "best practice" recommendations to guide program and policy development.
 - ✓ **Section III**: **Adherence to Standards** These programs address specific objectives of the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* and their content has been reviewed for accuracy, likelihood of meeting objectives, and adherence to program design standards but does not mean the program has been deemed effective through evaluation.



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1. CAMPAIGNS

National Suicide Prevention Campaign for Teens – We Can Help Us- SAMHSA, Ad Council and Inspire USA Foundation

http://us.reachout.com

In an effort to provide support for teens who may be contemplating suicide, SAMHSA and Ad Council launched the Teen Suicide Prevention campaign. Created by DDB New York through the Ad Council, the *We Can Help Us* effort includes television, radio, print and interactive PSAs, as well as in-school and mall posters, directed at 13-17 year-olds. The ads were based on the understanding that teens face a myriad of problems and many are seeking effective ways to cope with them.

2. ACCREDITATION

American A	American Association of Suicidology	
www.suicidolo	gy.org	
Description:	School Suicide Prevention Accreditation Program	
Target:	School psychologists, social workers, counselors, nurses and others supporting the	
	reduction of suicide and suicidal behaviors.	
Cost:	\$350 for school-based professionals and \$250 for current graduate students;	
	\$200 for renewal every four years with proof of 9 hours of continuing education	
Steps:	Application process and payment of fee	
	Receive school suicide guide; recommended reading list; sample test questions; and	
	information to access the on-line exam	
	Access to on-line support system	

3. SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Programs reviewed by and listed with Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (NREPP) and/or the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC-EBPP) have been noted.

American Indian Life Skills Development/Zuni Life Skills Development	
vww.ihs.gov/NonMedicalPrograms/nspn/index.cfm	
On both the NREPP and SPRC-EBPP (Section I) list of programs.	
A school-based suicide course for high school students and some middle school students that is designed to drastically reduce suicidal thinking and behavior. Created in collaboration with students and community members from the Zuni Pueblo and the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, this curriculum addresses key issues in Native	
American Indian adolescents lives and teaches such life skills as communication, problem solving, depression and stress management, anger regulation, and goal setting	
Adolescents aged 13 to 17 and has been replicated with middle school students	
Manual is available for \$30. Training for school staff about \$3,000 for a 3-day training.	



•	CARE (Care, Assess, Respond, Empower)	
www.nrepp.sa	www.nrepp.samhsa.gov/programfulldetails.asp?PROGRAM_ID=225	
Listing:	On NREPP program list.	
Description:	Formerly the Counselors CARE and Measure of Adolescent Potential for Suicide. CARE assesses the adolescent's needs, provides immediate support, and then serves as the adolescent's crucial communication bridge with school personnel and the parent or guardian of choice. The CARE program is typically delivered by school or advanced-practice nurses, counselors, psychologists, or social workers who have completed the CARE implementation training program and certification process.	
Target:	High risk high-school youth Although CARE was originally developed to target high-risk youth in high school particularly those at risk of school dropout or abusing substancesits scope has been expanded to include young adults (ages 20 to 24) in settings outside of schools, such as health care clinics.	
Content:	2-hour, one-on-one computer assisted suicide assessment interview followed by2-hour motivation counseling and social support intervention Connects each high-risk student to a school-based caseworker or favorite teacher and establishes contact with a parent or guardian chosen by the youth. Also includes a follow-up reassessment of broad suicide risk and protective factors and a booster motivational counseling session 9 weeks after the initial counseling session.	
Cost:	Required online training in CARE implementation is being developed for interventionists, program coordinators and administrators. Costs include (1) the training registration fee, (2) the purchase of a license for the use of the computer-assisted CARE program, and (3) follow-up training and certification process fees. Length of training may vary depending on individuals' competency levels and the time required for them to achieve and maintain a level of "distinguished" implementation performance. Evaluation tools are sold separately with prices as follows: \$6.50 each for the High School Questionnaire: Profile of Experiences—long version (for pre- and posttest measurements); \$5.00 each for the High School Questionnaire: Profile of Experiences—short version (for midpoint measures during the intervention); and \$5.00 per student/client for the CARE Process Evaluation package, which includes all process tools. Other costs are subject to change. Contact agency	

CAST (Copin	AST (Coping and Support Training)	
www.reconnec	www.reconnectingyouth.com/cast/what_main.html	
Listing:	On both the NREPP and SPRC-EBPP (Section I) program lists.	
Description:	High school-based suicide prevention program for students who evidence	
	multiple risk factors and few protective factors for suicide and depression. CAST is a	
	small group skills training intervention designed to enhance personal competencies	
	and social support resources. The CAST program goals are to decrease: suicide risk and	
	emotional distress, drug involvement, and school problems.	
Target:	Adolescents aged 14-18 in grades 9-12. (Currently being tested with middle school	
	aged students)	
Content:	12, 55-minute group sessions administered over 6 weeks by trained high school	
	teachers, counselors, or nurses with considerable school-based experience	
Cost:	\$700 curriculum; \$200 student notebook; \$400/person to train leaders; and \$800	
	fidelity training.	



Columbia University Teen Screen© www.teenscreen.org	
Description:	Designed to identify teens in need of mental health services due to risk for suicide and undetected mental illness.
Target:	Middle and high school-aged youth
Content:	Before any screening is conducted, parents' active written consent is required for school-based screening sites and strongly recommended for non-school-based sites
	Teens must also agree to the screening. Both the teens and their parents receive information about the process of the screening, confidentiality rights, and the teens' rights to refuse to answer any questions they do not want to answer.
	Each teen completes a 10-minute paper-and-pencil or computerized questionnaire covering anxiety, depression, substance and alcohol abuse, and suicidal thoughts and behavior.
	Teens whose responses indicate risk for suicide or other mental health needs participate in a brief clinical interview with an on-site mental health professional. If the clinician determines the symptoms warrant a referral for an in-depth mental health evaluation, parents are notified and offered assistance with finding appropriate services in the community. Teens whose responses do not indicate need for clinical services receive an individualized debriefing. The debriefing reduces the stigma associated with scores indicating risk and provides an opportunity for the youth to express any concerns not reflected in their questionnaire responses.
Cost:	Implementing TeenScreen includes staffing (screener, clinician, case manager), supplies and equipment (computers, headphones, printers, photocopies), and mailing. Costs will vary by site. The program manual includes a budget planning exercise. The developers of TeenScreen offer free consultation, training, and technical assistance to qualifying communities that wish to implement their own screening programs using the TeenScreen model.

H.E.L.P. Hel	I.E.L.P. Helping Every Living Person	
www.yspp.org	ww.yspp.org/schools/HELP_curriculum.htm	
Listing:	SPRC-EBPP (Section III) program lists.	
Description:	Developed by the Youth Suicide Prevention Program (YSPP in Washington State)	
	based on the American Association of Suicidology (AAS) guidelines. Containing	
	4, 45-minute lessons (best used in addition to a school-wide approach) Topics include	
	stress and healthy coping skills, depression and its impact on teen's lives, the causes	
	and warning signs of suicide, and skills to intervene with a possibly suicidal friend.	
	High school-based suicide prevention program for students who evidence	
	multiple risk factors and few protective factors for suicide and depression. CAST is a	
	small group skills training intervention designed to enhance personal competencies	
	and social support resources. The CAST program goals are to decrease: suicide risk and	
	emotional distress, drug involvement, and school problems.	
Target:	9 th -12 th grades (See Look Listen Link below for middle school)	
Content:	Activities call for discussion and problem solving and involve issues that students are	
	currently dealing with, such as keeping confidences.	
Cost:	\$250 per curriculum (outside of Washington State)	



Lifelines	
www.hazelden	o.org/web/public/lifelines.page
Listing:	On both the NREPP and SPRC-EBPP (Section I) program lists.
Description:	This comprehensive suicide prevention program is a whole-school program. Lifelines educates students on the facts about suicide and students' role in suicide prevention. It provides information on where to find suicide prevention resources in the school and community. Training materials are included for faculty and staff that provide accurate and practical information on identifying and referring students who might be at risk for suicide. Lifelines also includes a presentation for parents that answer questions about youth suicide and prevention, and it involves them in the school's suicide prevention activities. Hazelden Publishing, 2009
Target:	Grades: 8 to 12
Content:	Training for students, administrators, faculty, support staff & parents. Student curriculum 4, 45-minute lessons
Cost:	Teacher's manual, 2 DVDs and CD Rom = \$225

	Look Listen Link www.yspp.org/schools/look_listen_link.htm	
Listing:	, , ,	
Description:	Developed by the Youth Suicide Prevention Program (YSPP in Washington State)	
•	based on the American Association of Suicidology (AAS) guidelines	
Target:	6 th -8 th grades	
Content:	4, 45-minute lessons (best used in addition to a school-wide approach, compliments	
	H.E.L.P.)	
Cost:	\$250 per curriculum (outside of Washington State)	

LivingWorks	s programs	
www.livingworks.net		
1. Suicide	1. SuicideTALK	
Listing:	Not on either list	
Description:	A 90-minute to half-day session that invites interested community members to	
	become more aware of suicide prevention opportunities in their community	
Target:	Interested community members	
Content:	Questions and handouts to stimulate discussion designed to help adults understand	
	how personal and community beliefs about suicide affect suicide stigma and safety;	
	appreciate how the steps taught in safeTALK can be used to help prevent suicide;	
	choose among ways to help protect, preserve and promote life in a suicide-safer	
	community.	
Cost:	General retail: \$350 CAD	
	Graduates of the two-day ASIST workshop: \$300 CAD; LivingWorks trainers: \$250 CAD	
2. safeTA	ALK	
Listing:	On SPRC-EBPP (Section III) list	
Description:	A training that prepares anyone over the age of 15 to identify persons with thoughts of	
	suicide and connect them to suicide first aid resources. Most people with thoughts of	
	suicide invite help to stay safe. Alert helpers know how to use these opportunities to	
	support that desire for safety. 3 hour workshop	
Target:	Anyone over age 15 to educate them to assist persons with suicidal ideation to obtain	
	suicide first aide resources (Tell, Ask, Listen, Keepsafe)	
Content:	Video clips illustrate alert and non-alert responses; discussion; and practice.	



3. Workii	ngTogether
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	A one-day learning experience for community helpers. It is designed to help
•	community helpers bridge gaps in supporting persons at risk of suicidal behaviors.
Target:	Community helpers
Content:	Innovative, experiential exercises to uncover barriers and develop lifelinks among
	community resources
Cost:	Conducted by special arrangements. No costs listed.
4. ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)
Listing:	On SPRC-EBPP (Section III) program list
Description:	A 2-day (required) skill building workshop that prepares caregivers of all
	types to provide suicide first aid interventions.
	As an ASIST-trained first aid intervention caregiver, you will be better able to: identify
	people who have thoughts of suicide; understand how your beliefs and attitudes can
	affect suicide interventions; seek a shared understanding of the reasons for thoughts
	of suicide and the reasons for living; review current risks and develop a plan to
	increase safety from suicidal behavior for an agreed amount of time; and follow up on
	all safety commitments, accessing further help as needed.
Target:	Adults, professionals, volunteers and informal community helpers
Content:	Small group discussions, skill practice and video demonstrations
Cost:	Depends upon the organization hosting.
5. ASIST	Training for Trainers
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	A five-day (minimum) course that prepares local resource persons to be trainers of the
	ASIST workshop.
Target:	Local resource persons to be trainers of the ASIST workshop.
Content:	Coaching, independent study, group presentations, lectures and Seminars
Cost:	\$275 CAD/person and up, depending upon hosting
6. ASIST	Tune-up
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	Half-day training refresher
Target:	Previously trained in ASIST. ASIST training (edition X or later) or an earlier edition plus
	an ASIST X Familiarizer.
Content:	Review of ASIST training.
Cost:	Depends upon the hosting agency.
7. suicide	eCare: Aiding Life Alliances
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	Introduces frontline caregivers and professionals to advanced clinical practices beyond
-	suicide first aid care. A structured clinical risk assessment underlies the matching of an
	appropriate helping strategy with the needs of the person at risk. 1 day seminar
Target:	Frontline caregivers and professionals introducing them to advanced clinical practices
	beyond suicide first aid that have been previously trained in ASIST.
Content:	This seminar focuses upon suicide-specific tools that are rarely provided in formal
	training including comprehensive risk assessment, negotiation of appropriate helping
	strategy with the person at-risk; appreciation of how beliefs' attitudes and practices
	can shape an effective helping relationship.
Cost:	Conducted by special arrangements. No costs listed.



National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Description:

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national, federally funded network of local crisis centers providing suicide prevention and intervention services. This site provides free materials to spread the word about the Lifeline, such as posters, helpline cards and other promotional material. These materials can easily be customized with your organization's logo and contact information. The website also contains information and materials in Spanish.

Please see CRISIS LINES section for more information

QPR: Quest	ion, Persuade and Refer
vww.qprinstitu	
1. QPR Ga	atekeeper Training
Listing:	On SPRC-EBPP (Section III) program list
Description:	One hour online gatekeeper training covering the common causes of suicidal
	behavior; the warning signs of suicide; how to Question, Persuade and Refer someone
	who may be suicidal; and how to get help for someone in crisis.
Target:	Adults learn to recognize the warning signs of suicide and to question, persuade and
	refer someone to help
Content:	Online materials and quizzes with periodic follow-ups reminding participants to
	refresh their training online
Cost:	\$30
2. Advano	ced QPR Trainings
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	Two levels of advanced training available both online and in classroom:
	i. Suicide Risk Assessment and Management - for professionals who evaluate and
	treat suicidal persons.
	ii. Suicide Triage - for anyone who may come into contact with people at potential
	risk for suicide.
Target:	i. Suicide Risk Assessment and Management - for professionals who may
	evaluate, assist, counsel or treat potentially suicidal persons.
	ii. Suicide Triage - for professionals including emergency services professionals,
	healthcare professionals, school counselors and others needing competency-
	based training in suicide risk detection who may come into contact with
	potentially suicidal persons
Content:	I. Suicide Risk Assessment and Management - 10 hours online to evaluate, assist,
	counsel or treat potentially suicidal persons - a tool that is uniquely designed to
	gather critical information about a person's status at intake and to establish a
	safety and intervention plan.
	II. Suicide Triage - 10 hours online for "first responders" who come in contact with
	people at risk for suicide. Includes the scope of the problem; risk factors; how
	to question; determine risk; refer and document.
Cost:	i. Suicide Risk Assessment and Management \$229
	ii. Suicide Triage - \$25



3. QPR Gatekeeper Instructor Train the Trainer Program	
Listing:	Not on either list.
Description:	Certification Self-Study 12 hour course to Teach QPR. 12 hours for Suicide Prevention
	to their community
Target:	Community members who want to teach QPR
Content:	Participants are introduced to the history of suicide, suicide prevention and the spectrum of modern day public health suicide prevention education efforts. The history, background and research support for QPR are reviewed. Participants then learn to market QPR, target potential Gatekeepers, and how to teach the QPR curriculum. Participants also learn to deal with pent up audience demand to talk about suicide, survivor issues and how to make immediate interventions and referrals. Each participant has the opportunity for individual rehearsal and practice through role-plays.
Cost:	\$495 for 3 year certification plus cost of training materials which can be passed on to the participants.

Reconnecting Youth (RY)		
http://reconnecting youth.com		
Listing:	On both the NREPP and SPRC-EBPP (Section I) program lists	
Description:	A science-based prevention program designed as a semester-long class for high-school youth who show signs of poor school achievement, potential for school dropout, and suicide risk. RY teens benefit by increasing school achievement, mood management and drug use control.	
Target:	Adolescents in grades 9 to 12	
Content:	Incorporates social support and life skills training.	
Cost:	Administrator training - \$400/person; RY Curriculum materials - \$300; Leader training \$14,000 minimum for 4-day training for 14 to 16 staff; Getting Started - \$75; RY student workbooks - \$25/student or \$212 for set of 10 plus shipping and handling.	

Safe:Teen		
www.endsuicide.org/preventionprograms.html		
Listing:	Not on either list.	
Description:	Workshop format developed by Suicide Education and Support Services of Weld County Colorado (Diane Ryerson-Peake) times are adjustable from 50 minutes to half or full-day training. The objectives include reaching youth with the message that suicide is not the answer; what to look for; what to say; what to do and who to call. Taught by survivors	
Target:	Middle and High schools (mostly 9 th graders)	
Content:	In addition to lecture there are activities to help teach facts about depression and suicide and how to prevent it Current contact Patty Lloyd (970) 313-1095	
Cost:	Conducted by special arrangements. No costs listed.	



Signs of Suicide© – S.O.S.		
www.mentalhealthscreening.org/schools/index.aspx		
Listing:	On both NREFF and SPRC-EBPP (Section I) program lists.	
Description:	Programs are depression awareness and suicide prevention programs that can be	
	implemented in one or more classroom periods by existing school staff.	
Target:	High School (9-12) & Middle School (6 to8). The SOS programs can also be used in	
	alternative settings serving youth such as: social clubs, after school programs, and	
	juvenile justice systems. Both high school and middle school programs are designed	
	to educate students to respond to the signs of suicide as a mental health emergency,	
	using the ACT ® approach (A cknowledge, C are, and T ell).	
Content:	A two-day secondary school-based intervention that includes screening and	
	education. Students are screened for depression and suicide risk and referred for	
	professional help as indicated. Students also view a video that teaches them to	
	recognize signs of depression and suicide in others. They are taught that the	
	appropriate response to these signs is to acknowledge them, let the person know you	
	care, and tell a responsible adult.	
Cost:	High School Kits with DVD \$300 (for 300 students); Downloadable SOS high school	
	renewal Kit \$75; and Downloadable SOS middle school renewal kit \$75	

The Trevor Project		
www.thetrevorproject.org		
Listing:	Not on either list.	
Description:	The Trevor Project operates the only accredited, nationwide, around-the-clock crisis and suicide prevention helpline for LGBTQ youth. They also have free materials for schools and youth serving agencies.	
Target:	All LGBTQ youth	
Content:	Provides FREE materials to schools and other youth serving organizations including: • Trevor Workshop Guide • Trevor Survival Kit • Educator's Workshop Guide • School Workshop Evaluation Forms ✓ Sponsor Evaluation ✓ Participant Evaluation	
Cost:	Free except for purchase - Academy Award winning short "Trevor"	

Please see CRISIS LINES section for more information



Yellow Ribbon		
www.yellowribbon.org		
Listing:	SPRC-EBPP (Section III) program lists	
Description:	Multiple prevention trainings: Training for adults - Be-A-Link© gatekeeper training	
	and youth - Ask for Help© and Community Action Training	
Target:	School staff trained to present to Kindergarten thru high school the Ask For Help©	
	program.	
	Community Action Training:	
	Step-by-step implementation strategies	
	How to organize training	
	 How to talk to schools and overcome objections 	
	Finding funding for your program	
	Media reporting guidelines	
Cost:	\$295 adults and \$245 youth/seniors	

Youth Suicide Prevention School-Based Guide Checklist		
http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu		
Listing:	SPRC-EBPP (Section III) program list.	
Description:	Created in 2003 by the Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute at the	
	University of South Florida, funded by the Institute for Child Health Policy at NOVA	
	Southeastern University through a Florida Drug Free Communities Program Award/	
	Provides a prevention framework tool for schools and administrators regarding	
	building or supporting a suicide prevention systemic approach.	
Target:	Middle, high schools and college campuses	
Cost:	Free – all online or available in CD Rom.	

4. THERAPEUTIC RESOURCES

Colorado Department of Human Services/Office of Behavioral Health & Housing/Division of Mental Health

www.cdhs.state.co.us/ohr/mhs/index.html

3824 West Princeton Circle, Denver, CO 80236-3111

Phone (303) 866-7400 or outside the metro area: 1-800-811-7648

Description:

Provides mental health services to Coloradans of all ages who do not have mental health insurance coverage or who have Medicaid. Includes services provided by

- Community Mental Health Centers
- Specialty Clinics
- State Mental Health Hospitals (Institutes)
- Individual Providers
- Residential Placements
- Is paid for with state fund dollars, federal grant dollars, state and federal Medicaid dollars, local government dollars, client fees, private insurance funds and private donations and grants.

Is monitored by two state agencies: DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES AND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE POLICY AND FINANCING



The Second Wind Fund, Inc.

www.thesecondwindfund.org

PO BOX 260795, Lakewood, Colorado 80226-0795

Phone (303)988-5870

Mission: The mission of the Second Wind Fund, Inc. (SWF) is to decrease the incidence of

adolescent suicide by removing financial and social barriers to treatment for at-risk

youth through its affiliates.

Description: Through SWF's affiliates, mental health services are accessible to every youth 19 and

> under. Second Wind Fund of Metro Denver covers the Denver metro area (Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Denver, Jefferson, and Park counties). Other Affiliates offer

services in Douglas and Boulder counties.

New Affiliate Programs are forming in the La Plata, Montrose, El Paso, Teller, Weld, Garfield, Pitkin and Eagle county areas as well as the 10 county region of Northeastern

Colorado.

Referrals are normally made through school counselors, whether at public, private, charter, or choice schools, although youth being home-schooled or no longer

attending school are also eligible.

5. CRISIS LINES

National Hopeline Network

www.hopeline.com

National Hopeline Network 1-800-SUICIDE (1-800-784-2433), if Spanish - speaking 1-**Description:**

800-SUICIDA (1-800-784-2432). The Network connects people who are depressed or suicidal - or those who are concerned about someone they love automatically to a CONTACT USA or AAS certified crisis center. The Network has a line for Spanish-

speaking callers and for military personnel.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

www.suicidepreventionlifeline.org

Description: The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a 24-hour, toll-free suicide prevention

> service available to anyone in suicidal crisis. If you or someone you know needs help, please dial 1-800-273-TALK (8255). Calls are routed to more than 130 crisis centers across the country and to the Pueblo Call Center in Colorado. The mission is to provide

immediate assistance to anyone seeking mental health services.

The Trevor Project

www.thetrevorproject.org

Description: The Trevor Project operates the only nationwide, around-the-clock crisis and suicide

> prevention helpline for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. This site has materials and resources to promote the crisis line and for helping youth. 1-

866-4-U-TREVOR (1-866-488-7386).



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