

SOUTH DAKOTA SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN 2020-2025

# 2023 PRIORITY STRATEGIES OUTCOMES REPORT

988 - Call. Text. Chat.



[sdsuicideprevention.org](https://sdsuicideprevention.org)



## DATA

To measure the impact of the implementation of the 2020-2025 SD Suicide Prevention Plan, 5 performance measures were identified and are posted on the data dashboards on SDSuicidePrevention.org/data. These will be monitored on an annual basis to assess progress and inform our priority strategies for the next year.

Below are the data points for the Suicide State Performance Measures:

- By 2025, increase the average monthly number of unique users who visit the SD Suicide Prevention website from 2,324 (2020) to 4,638.
  - 2022 = 2,574
  - 2023 = 5,376
- By 2025, increase the number annual gatekeeper trainings offered and individuals trained from 61 trainings, training 1,179 individuals in 2020 to 71 trainings, training 1,367 individuals.
  - 2022 = 146 trainings, 4,283 trained
  - 2023 = 229 trainings, training 5,612
- By 2025, increase the number of calls from South Dakotans to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline from 3,811 (2020) to 4,661.
  - 2022 = 4,185
  - 2023 = 9,749
- By 2025, decrease the percentage of high school students who reported they attempted suicide from 12.3% (2019) to 9%.
  - 2022 = 11.9%
- By 2025, decrease the number of suicide deaths from 185 (2020) to 167.
  - 2022 = 192

“  
**IN THOSE DESPERATE MOMENTS  
 AND DARKEST HOURS YOUR  
 VOICE ON THE LINE MEANT SO  
 MUCH TO ME. I'M SO THANKFUL  
 FOR 988.**  
**-988 PARTICIPANT**  
 ”

To increase awareness about suicide data and highlight available resources, the SD Suicide Prevention Workgroup developed four population-specific infographics focused on American Indians, farmers and ranchers, Veterans, and youth. These infographics highlight some key data points, warning signs of suicide, ways to reduce risk of suicide, and available resources that are specific to each population. They are available on the South Dakota Suicide Prevention website.

## EDUCATION AND TRAINING

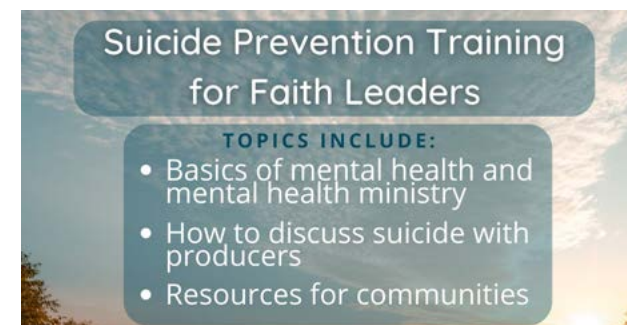
A Means Safety Workgroup meets every other month to discuss means safety strategies. The group continues to promote the Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) training that is listed on the South Dakota Suicide Prevention website through listservs, newsletters, and public health bulletins. 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline information was distributed to Hunter Safety Instructors, with over 350 materials being disseminated. A partnership with the Department of Game Fish and Parks will continue into 2024 and members from the suicide sub-workgroup will present on suicide prevention at the HuntSAFE Instructor Conference in April 2024.



The Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health has convened a Zero Suicide Workgroup consisting of inpatient hospitals and Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs). The purpose of the Zero Suicide workgroup is to develop organizational policies that provide guidance for successful care transitions of individuals with warm hand-offs and supportive contacts. Workgroup current priorities are communication between providers, workflow improvement regarding releases of information, and discharge planning. A pilot has been launched between one major inpatient provider and two CMHC's to determine if referral process works prior to full-scale implementation.



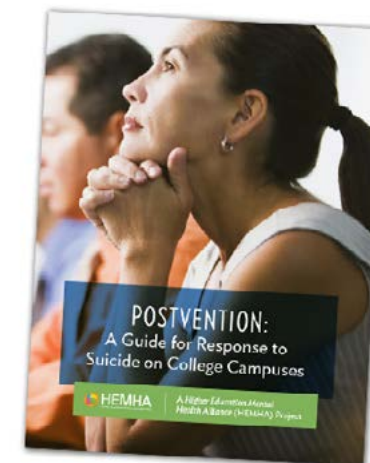
To help combat farm and ranch suicides, in April Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) hosted two Suicide Prevention Trainings for Faith Leaders, one in Sioux Falls, and one in Rapid City. The trainings were designed for congregations with farmers and ranchers and provided information on the basics of mental health, how to communicate with producers and discuss suicide, suicide grief, suicide prevention in rural communities, and available resources for rural faith communities. More than 100 attendees from across the state participated in the trainings.



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health provided Mental Health First Aid trainings to all Department of Social Services staff, including those that work for Economic Assistance. There were 160 Economic Assistance Staff trained in Mental Health First Aid in 2023. Additionally, Division of Behavioral Health staff provided behavioral health resources to every Economic Assistance office to ensure all staff are aware of and utilize the resources available in South Dakota. Nearly 15,000 materials were distributed to 35 Economic Assistance offices across the state.

Lost&Found created a postvention policy guide for post-secondary institutions, providing step-by-step guidance and tools for campuses to implement best practices for response to suicide loss. To date, three public, postsecondary institutions statewide have engaged with Lost&Found to begin implementation of new postvention practices, with outreach to an additional eight campuses anticipated in 2024.



Suicide Prevention Workgroup members used the development and dissemination of the population-specific infographics developed for the American Indian, farmer and rancher, Veteran, and youth populations as an opportunity to connect with partner organizations and share additional resources and training opportunities. This included a combination of direct outreach, newsletters, and ListServs.