

SOUTH DAKOTA SUICIDE PREVENTION PLAN 2020-2025

2021 PRIORITY STRATEGIES OUTCOMES REPORT

1.800.273.8255 *help available 24/7*



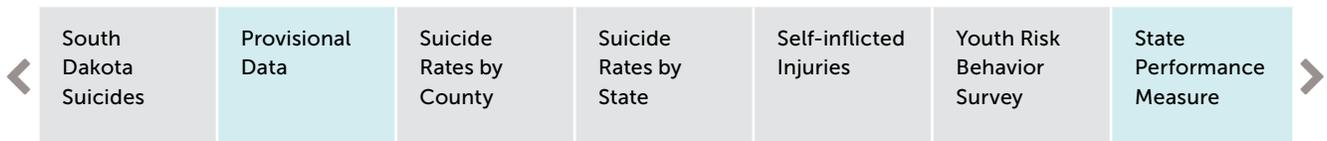
sdsuicideprevention.org

DATA

To measure the impact of the implementation of the 2020-2025 SD Suicide Prevention Plan, **5 performance measures** were identified and added to 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.

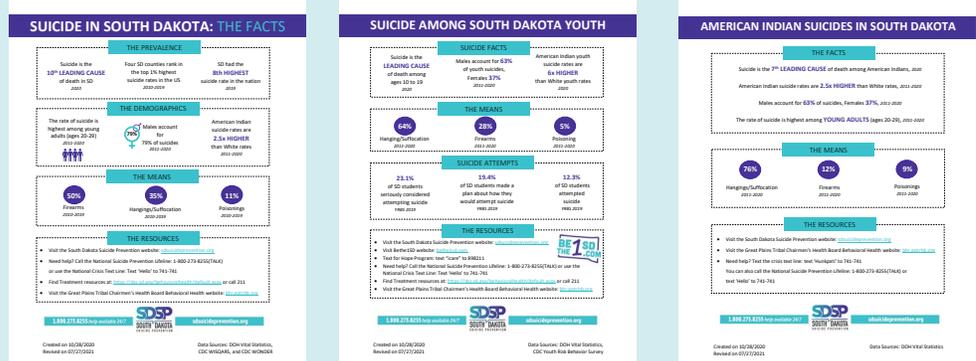
1. By 2025, increase the average monthly number of unique users who visit the SD Suicide Prevention website from 2,324 (2020) to 4,638.
2. By 2025, increase the number annual gatekeeper trainings offered and individuals trained from 61 trainings, training 1,179 individuals in 2020 to 71 trainings, training 1,367 individuals.
3. By 2025, increase the number of calls from South Dakotans to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline from 3,187 (2020) to 4,661.
4. By 2025, decrease the percentage of high school students who reported they attempted suicide from 12.3% (2019) to 9%.
5. By 2025, decrease the number of suicide deaths from 186 (2020) to 167.

The data dashboards were also updated to include **Provisional death data for the current year** updated by quarter to provide real-time data to assist with prevention and intervention strategies.



In June 2021, a small **Suicide Data to Action inter-agency group** started monthly reviews of provisional death data and syndromic surveillance (emergency department) data to identify counties that are experiencing high rates of suicide deaths. The group then proactively attempts to reach out to healthcare, behavioral health, community organizations, schools, and other partners to make them aware of the data if they weren't already and provide support in any way possible. To date, 8 high risk counties have been identified through this process and multiple agencies have worked together to support training, additional messaging on social media, and print material to those specific counties. The group also presented and provided data reports to educate other stakeholders in high risk counties. Many of these counties were also awarded funding to implement *Communities that Care* to further support their prevention work. With this added support and collaboration, we are hoping to see a decrease in suicide deaths and attempts in 2022.

Three **NEW infographics** were developed to educate on the impact that suicide has on the **overall South Dakota population, youth, and South Dakota American Indians.**



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Learning how to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis, how to respond, and the resources available is extremely important to reduce suicide attempts and deaths. Through collaborative messaging across multiple state agencies and partnerships with various organizations across South Dakota there have been **65 evidence-based mental health and suicide prevention trainings offered in 2021, which resulted in 1,442 individuals trained**. Also in fiscal year 2021, 3,239 educators submitted completion of an approved youth suicide awareness and prevention training as part of a requirement to obtain initial or renewal educator certification ([SDCL 13-42-71](#)). Learn more about various free trainings at sdsuicideprevention.org/get-help/request-training/.

A **“Bright Spot” Suicide Prevention Learning Collaborative** was started in September and offered monthly throughout 2021 to showcase successful and impactful work going on in South Dakota and encourage others to take back to their communities. Across the four learning collaborative sessions 331 individuals registered and participated or received a recording of the sessions, all of which are posted to <https://sdsuicideprevention.org/bright-spots/>. Continuing Education Credits are also available for multiple professionals, in which 29 individuals have received.

Request Training

The Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health (DSS-DBH) is pleased to offer mental health awareness and suicide prevention training. To learn more about available trainings, [click here](#).

Please submit requests within **two weeks** of desired training date to allow for scheduling and coordination.

Training Request Form

Training Requested *

I would like to request the above training for the following organization/group *

Number of people anticipated to attend *

Purpose of training *

City of training location *

COMMUNICATIONS

The SD Suicide Prevention website serves as the main source of information for suicide prevention in South Dakota. All state agencies promote sdsuicideprevention.org through their individual communication channels. And to help with consistent and aligned messaging an interagency Communication Plan was developed. The plan includes key messages, social media posts to utilize throughout the entire year, a listing of key partner organizations and roles of each state agency. The various state agency social media utilized include:

- + BeThe1: [Instagram](#)
- + SD Prevention: [Facebook](#)
- + Black Hills VA: [Facebook](#)
- + Sioux Falls VA: [Facebook](#)
- + Cör Health & Wellbeing: [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#)
- + GPTLHB: [Facebook](#)
- + SD Dept. of Tribal Relations: [Facebook](#)
- + SD Dept. of Health: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)
- + SD Dept. of Social Services: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#)

With this collaboration and more consistent messaging throughout the entire year it resulted in 55,955 SD Suicide Prevention website pageviews in 2021.

The Specific Population pages for [American Indians](#), [College Students](#), [Veterans](#), [Teens](#), and [Parents](#) on sdsuicideprevention.org were all updated to include current information and resources. Including a 4-part suicide prevention video series for [parents](#) and a SD Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Resource Rack Card, which is available to order for [FREE](#).

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Providing self-care training to high trauma professions (EMS, veterans, health professionals, law enforcement, National Guard, etc.) was a priority strategy in 2021, so in partnership with First Responders Resiliency Inc., there has been **157 South Dakota First Responders trained in resiliency and self-care strategies**. Of which, 40 attended an advanced resiliency leadership training course where they were provided the knowledge and skills to create an organizational resiliency program within their departments with the aid of the Organizational Resiliency Toolkit for Fire/EMS and Law Enforcement.

Lost&Found facilitated discussions with SD Board of Regents, SD Board of Technical Education, multiple public and private institutions, and a few tribal colleges to assess crisis intervention and postvention model policies. Through those discussions many gaps/challenges were identified including lack of policy implementation, staff training, support for crisis intervention, and transportation for care. To start to address some of these gaps, Lost&Found started to implement a Peer2Peer Mentoring Program in 8 post-secondary institutions in South Dakota. To learn more visit <https://sdsuicideprevention.org/specific-populations/college-students/>.

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