

January – March 2023 Newsletter

SUICIDE PREVENTION EVENTS

Second Annual Suicide Prevention Conference

The Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health, along with their state partners, are excited to announce the second annual Suicide Prevention Conference, which will be on August 10th and August 11th, 2023, at the Sioux Falls Convention Center. This no-cost conference is a great opportunity to continue the conversation around suicide prevention in South Dakota, featuring key speaker Kevin Hines, a suicide attempt survivor and Dr. Craig Bryan, a board-certified clinical psychologist and Veteran. Click [here](#) for more details. Registration is yet to come.



EVENTS

For more information on events, or to add an event, visit the [South Dakota Suicide Prevention Calendar](#).

April

4/25 | Sioux Falls
4/27 | Rapid City
Suicide Prevention Trainings for Faith Leaders – More information [here](#)

August

8/10/2023-
8/11/2023 – Suicide Prevention Conference, Sioux Falls – More information [here](#)

Remember, free training is available! To find the [list of trainings](#) and to request a training for your community, [click here](#).

Suicide Prevention Trainings for Faith Leaders

The South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) is hosting two, FREE, full day suicide prevention trainings. They will be in Sioux Falls and Rapid City and will feature identical topics. The training has been designed to increase rural faith leaders' understanding about suicide so that they can help prevent suicides as well as provide support to farmers and ranchers in their community that have been affected by suicide. DANR encourages clergy, spiritual and faith leaders including chaplains, elders, deacons, sisters, youth pastors, parish nurses, church board members, church staff, and congregational suicide prevention advocates to consider participating. Pre-registration is required. Click on one of the links below to register!

[Registration for April 25th, 2023 | Sioux Falls](#)

[Registration for April 27th, 2023 | Rapid City](#)

988 Launch Updates

Data Dashboard/988 Materials

988 is the new three-digit number for mental health crises that launched nationally on July 16th, 2022. Since the launch through November 30th, 2022, the Helpline Center has had 2,529 total contacts from those in need. Through these contacts, 94.08% of the crisis calls were stabilized by the end of the call and did not require further action, thus requiring fewer interventions by law enforcement. Click [here](#) to learn more about the impact 988 has had on South Dakotans. If you are interested in spreading the word about 988 through promotional materials, click [here](#) to order 988 materials from the Helpline Center.