

September 2023 Newsletter



The Center is funded through an agreement with the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and Western Connecticut State University.



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The Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation formed in 2021 from an agreement between the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and Western Connecticut State University. The Center provides professional development related to all aspects of

school safety planning, and it conducts research on prevention, crisis, safety, and trauma related to students and schools. The Center also establishes relationships among area school districts and community stakeholders to create both formal and informal networks. Moreover, the Center provides consultation and on-site support to school districts. This newsletter provides a venue for the Center to become a clearinghouse for school safety related trainings, meetings, research, and resources.



We need your advice!

We would appreciate your thoughts and perspectives on the School Safety Summer Conference. (Even if you were not able to attend the Conference, we would still value your input!)

[Click here for Survey](#)

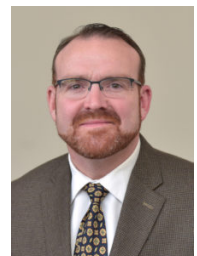
The Director's Corner



Dear School Safety Partners,

We are continuing to learn from all of you and we are thankful for your ongoing support and willingness to collaborate. This has been an exciting summer and I want to share some of our progress with you:

- We hosted the [second annual School Safety Summer Conference](#) with over



five days of valuable training and over 280 registrants. (Please take a moment to provide advice on how we can make the 2024 conference even more successful!) [Complete Survey](#)

- Our research team collected data for a study titled: **Weapons at School: An Examination of Motives and Prevention Methods**. (We will be releasing a technical report on the findings in the next few months)
- Our whole team completed the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) [PREPaRE Train-the-Trainer](#) and we are eager to bring this training to your region. (Please contact your [Regional School Safety Coordinator](#) to schedule training for your district)
- On September 21 we are launching an initiative to help increase the knowledge base surrounding digital threat and social media concerns facing school districts and law enforcement agencies. Please register for the training [here](#).
- This October, we are hosting a Train-the-Trainer for the [Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines \(CSTAG\) model](#). (Please email me directly if you are interested in attending) Bernhardta@wcsu.edu

We at the Center will continue to support you and your district throughout the 2023-2024 school year. Thank you for making us a part of your team.

Your partner in school safety,
Amery

Amery Bernhardt, D.M.

Director

CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation



Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security



From the DEMHS State School Safety Program Desk:

Dear School Safety Partners,

I'd like to thank you for signing up to get this important newsletter. As always, please feel free to contact me with any school plan questions.

Drills Required for Schools:

It appears there is confusion regarding the number of drills required for schools. The legislature did not pass the proposed legislation reducing the number of drills, but instead

created [Special Act 23-31](#).

During the average school year, **7 fire and 3 crisis drills are still required** Special Act 23-31 created deliverables for the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DESPP/DEMHS) and the State Department of Education (SDE) regarding crisis response drills.

DESPP/DEMHS and SDE are currently working on a drill log for schools to complete so we can capture some of the data required in the Special Act. The 2023-2024 School All-Hazards Template has been distributed but there will be a new drill log (Appendix 14) soon.

There are no changes to the standards or the templates for the 2023-2024 school year other than the drill log. If your school did not receive the 2023-2024 template, please contact me so I can send it to you. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Your partner in school safety,
Bill Turley

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September 2023 is National Recovery Month

Celebrating people living their lives in recovery and recognizing supportive services agencies and workers that provided treatment and prevention.

WHAT IS RECOVERY?

Recovery is more than abstinence from addiction itself, it is holistic. It is emotional, it is physical,

it is spiritual, it involves the entire self. According to Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMSHA), recovery can occur at any time and in 4 dimensions:

- Health: overcoming or managing one's disease or symptoms, and making informed, healthy choices that support physical and emotional well-being
- Home: having a stable and safe place to live
- Purpose: conducting meaningful daily activities, such as a job, school volunteerism, family caretaking, or creative endeavors, and the independence, income, and resources to participate in society
- Community: having relationships and social networks that provide support, friendship, love, and hope. [Recovery and Recovery Support | SAMHSA](#)

What are some suggestions to help remain successful in recovery and maintain sobriety? Here are a few to start:

1. Know your triggers: avoid people, places and things that could fuel your addiction.
2. Have a structured routine: develop a structured routine and stick to it. This is also helpful with setting short-term and long-term goals.
3. Get support: Try joining a support group to make new sober friends. Spending time with supportive people and loved ones can help with developing a healthier lifestyle. Building and establishing healthy relationships are the bedrock for successful sobriety.
4. Celebrate milestones: Milestones are important. Acknowledging and celebrating the hard work of recovery keeps the motivation going. It also reminds you of the brave first step you took towards sobriety.

HOW CAN WE CELEBRATE RECOVERY?

SAMHSA has a [Recovery Month Toolkit](#) one-stop shop, that offer ways to celebrate:

- Social media to spread awareness.
- Resources to learn about support in recovery.
- Promotion materials.

Each week in the month of September, the National Recovery Toolkit has weekly themes and key messages that can be used as a foundation. [Recovery Month Toolkit | SAMHSA](#)

In Connecticut, contact Recovery Supports – United Way of Connecticut by dialing 2-1-1 and for more information please see <https://uwc.211ct.org/recovery-supports/>
See [Flyer](#) for additional information.

2nd Annual School Safety Summer Conference



2nd Annual School Safety Summer Conference - August 2023 at WCSU, Danbury, CT

(Left to Right) Kiley Young, MS, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Tanya Iacono, DSW, LCSW, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Amery Bernhardt, D.M., Director-CT Center for School Safety, Gabriel I. Lomas, Ph.D., Founder-CT Center for School Safety, Senator Julie Kushner, Michele Gay, M.Ed., Founder and Executive Director-Safe and Sound Schools, Joan Palladino, Ed.D, RN, Dean-School of Professional Studies, WCSU, Paula Gill Lopez, Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director-School Psychology Program, Fairfield University, Sadie Witherspoon, MS, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Kimberly Myers, Ed.D., Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety



(Left to Right) Nicholas Williams-Ambrosio, Graduate Assistant-CT Center for School Safety, Tanya Iacono, DSW, LCSW, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Sadie Witherspoon, MS, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Paula Gill Lopez Ph.D., Associate Professor and Director-School Psychology Program, Fairfield University, Kiley Young, SA Marc LaFrance, BAU and Threat Management Coordinator, Amery Bernhardt, D.M., Director-CT Center for School Safety, Gabriel I. Lomas, Ph.D., Founder-CT Center for School Safety, Kimberly Myers, Ed.D., Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety

FBI Analysis Unit Symposium

FBI BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS UNIT SYMPOSIUM
June, 2023



FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit Symposium - June 20, 2023, New London, CT

(Left to Right) SA Marc LaFrance, BAU and Threat Management Coordinator, Amery Bernhardt, D.M., Director-CT Center for School Safety, Sadie Witherspoon, MS, Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety, Kimberly Myers, Ed.D., Regional School Safety Coordinator-CT Center for School Safety

RESOURCES

School Based Health Center

Since 1982, the [Brain Injury Alliance of Connecticut \(BIAC\)](#) has been Connecticut's resource for brain injury awareness, education, resources, and support. BIAC's primary objective is to support individuals with brain injuries, their families, caregivers, and brain injury professionals while increasing awareness of brain injury and its prevention.

200 Day Hill Road, Suite 250
Windsor, CT 06095
860-219-0291
General@biact.org

- **Individual Consultation & Resources** – Brain injury specialists provide support, advocacy, and resources for survivors, caregivers, and professionals.

- **Outreach & Education** – Through its Prevention & Education Programs, BIAC works to increase awareness and understanding of brain injury and its prevention through school, professional and community presentations.
- **Support Groups & Social Events** – BIAC sponsors numerous support groups throughout Connecticut that provide information and support.
- **Brain Injury Navigator** – A fee-for-service providing customized services from an expert in brain injury, helping those whose needs go beyond the work of the free Helpline.
- **Legislative Advocacy** – BIAC advocates for legislation to improve the quality of life for people living with brain injuries.

Here is a 2023 initiative:

- **HB 6561: AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE FOR THE PROTECTION OF YOUTH AND INTRAMURAL AND INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETES.** To establish a task force to study injury prevention practices and safety protocols in youth sports leagues and intramural and interscholastic.

Urgent Crisis Centers

Our partners at DCF are looking for your assistance with getting the word out to school communities about a new resource - Urgent Crisis Centers - now available to families of children who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis but do not require emergency department level of care. We also ask that school nurses and counselors consider this a resource in the work they do to serve students and their families.

Licensed and funded by DCF, the centers function as walk-in clinics, providing youths and their families with immediate access to resources while they are experiencing a behavioral health crisis, such as thoughts of suicide or self-injury, feelings of depression or anxiety, out-of-control behaviors, substance misuse, etc. Again, the centers are aimed at diverting youths and their families from making visits to emergency rooms to address behavioral health crises. Current capacity for the four centers is 72 daily slots. They are strategically located across Connecticut and are operated by:

- [The Village for Families and Children](#) in Hartford;
- [Yale New Haven Hospital](#) in New Haven;
- [The Child and Family Agency of Southeastern Connecticut](#) in New London; and
- [Wellmore Behavioral Health](#) in Waterbury.

- [Urgent Crisis Flyer English](#)
- [Urgent Crisis Flyer Spanish](#)

School Safety Resources from CISA

Back-to-school season represents a time of excitement and anticipation for the entire school community but is also a great time for schools to develop or enhance existing safety plans.

CISA—the [Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency](#)—is focused on reducing the risk of a disruption to the services that Americans depend on every day, specifically the K-12 community and education facilities. As states prepare for the upcoming school year, CISA is highlighting the no-cost resources that are available to help protect your school districts.

Cybersecurity is a growing concern for education and technology leaders in K-12 communities. To address these concerns, CISA released a K-12 cybersecurity report with an accompanying [toolkit](#) to provide schools targeted resources to improve their cybersecurity. These resources identify specific actions schools can take to drastically reduce their cybersecurity risk and we strongly encourage you to review these actions ahead of the start of the school year.

In addition to cybersecurity, CISA also provides information and expertise on the physical security of educational institutions. CISA offers a K-12 School Security Guide [Product Suite](#) to provide school districts and campuses with resources, tools, and strategies to improve physical security. With these products, school districts can identify the steps necessary to assess vulnerabilities, strengthen security, and better protect K-12 communities.

Finally, CISA maintains security professionals with expertise in protective security and cybersecurity in all 50 states who are ready to support your community's specific needs—we encourage you to get in touch.

Below are links to some of the many no-cost resources that CISA has to offer:

Cybersecurity

- [Online Toolkit: Partnering to Safeguard K-12 Organizations from Cybersecurity Threats | CISA](#)
- [Free Cybersecurity Services and Tools | CISA](#)
- [CISA Releases Updated Cybersecurity Performance Goals | CISA](#)

Physical Security

- [K-12 School Security Guide Product Suite | CISA](#)
- [K-12 Bystander Reporting Toolkit | CISA](#)
- [National Threat Assessment Center](#)

Southern Connecticut State University's Tobacco Program

SCSU's Tobacco Program Coordinator, Victoria Adams, provides free trainings, technical assistance, and materials on tobacco (vaping) prevention and cessation. This is provided at no cost to employees in CT from a grant from the CT DPH. Email **Victoria Adams**, M.Ed, NCTTP, at Adamsv2@southernct.edu for additional information.

Free trainings:

- Tobacco Treatment Specialist training in December for those interested in supporting youth and adults quit tobacco (including nicotine vaping)
- Trainings on the risks of nicotine vaping, youth vaping cessation, alternative to suspension programs, and other tobacco related training
- Print materials on tobacco prevention and cessation (posters, brochures, etc.)

The HUB

- The Hub: Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization (RBHAO) for Southwestern CT
A program of the Regional Youth Adult Social Action Partnership (RYASAP)
- Check out our website, www.thehubct.org and scroll down to subscribe to our weekly newsletter!
- Check out [***The Hub's Resource Guide***](#), a thorough list of nonprofit & public-sector services for crisis, mental health and substance use disorders, and support programs, including a listing of [***free peer support groups***](#) – all in the Southwestern CT area.



SchoolSafety.gov Back-to-School Campaign

Join the campaign and share helpful resources for a safe return to school. The Back-to-School Campaign encourages members of the K-12 community to visit [SchoolSafety.gov](https://www.schoolsafety.gov) and use its resources and tools to create safe and supportive learning environments for students and educators.

There are a number of ways to get involved in the campaign and help our school communities begin the new year informed and equipped with the latest available school safety resources and evidence-based practices.

Copy, download, and share the SchoolSafety.gov Back-to-School Campaign resources featured below – which include an animated video, communications toolkit, infographics, and social media posts and graphics – to learn more about SchoolSafety.gov and help spread the word to others in your school and community.

Feel free to tailor and use these promotional materials in ways that fit the needs of your audiences and channels, and consider using our hashtag [#BacktoSchoolSafety](https://twitter.com/BacktoSchoolSafety) to make it easier for others to find and engage with the campaign. You can also access additional school safety information by subscribing to our email [list](#), following us on [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#), and exploring the rest of the [SchoolSafety.gov](https://www.schoolsafety.gov) site.

[Play "Back-to-School Safety" Video](#)

Meetings - Please look for meetings in your Region.



TBA - DEMHS Region 1 School Safety and Security Meeting

- For more information, please contact **Robert Kenny** at Robert.kenny@ct.gov.

Region 1 Gambling Awareness Team consists of community stakeholders working toward raising awareness and developing prevention and treatment capacity in the region. We host gambling awareness trainings and webinars. The team meets quarterly to review gambling trends, needs, gaps, and access to treatment.

- *When:* 2nd Tuesday of the month, Quarterly; from 2:30-4pm (10/10/23 Teams Meeting, 1/9/24 Teams Meeting, March no meeting to celebrate PGAM, 4/9/24 Teams Meeting, 6/11/24 In person at The Burroughs Community Center)
- *Where:* Virtually
- *Who Should Attend:* Meetings are open to all.
- *RSVP to Dena Miccinello* by emailing Dmiccinello@ryasap.org for the meeting link and with any questions or comments.

The DEMHS Region 2 School Safety & Security Group Meeting

- *When:* 9/20 from 2:15-3:15pm
- *Where:* Virtually via Google Meets
- *Who Should Attend:* This meeting is for Administrators, Facility Directors, Business Officials, SRO's, Security Personnel, Emergency Management Personnel, Mental Health Professionals, Technology Leaders, etc.
- Those who are interested in being part of our group are encouraged to email their contact information to **Jeff Nielsen** at Jnielsen@milforded.org. Group membership includes receiving correspondence related to meeting announcements and information related to school safety/security.

The DEMHS Region 3 Capitol Emergency Management Meeting

- *When:* 9/21 from 1-2:30pm (12/14, 3/28)
- *Where:* In-Person
- *Who Should Attend:* This meeting is for Administrators, Facility Directors, Business Officials, SRO's, Security Personnel, Emergency Management Personnel, Mental Health Professionals, Technology Leaders, etc.
- *RSVP to Linda Powell*, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent at powelll@granbyschools.org or call (860) 844-5259.

The DEMHS Region 4 (Eastern CT) School Safety Subcommittee

- *When:* 9/27 from 9:30-11:00am
- *Where:* Hybrid on Zoom and In-Person at [EASTCONN](#), 376 Hartford Turnpike, Hampton, CT 06247
- *Who Should Attend:* For those organizations within Region 4's territory: Ashford, Bozrah, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Colchester, Columbia, Coventry, Eastford, East Lyme,

Franklin, Griswold, Groton, Hampton, Killingly, Lebanon, Ledyard, Lisbon, Lyme, Mansfield, Montville, New London, North Stonington, Norwich, Old Lyme, Plainfield, Pomfret, Preston, Putnam, Salem, Scotland, Sprague, Sterling, Stonington, Thompson, Union, Voluntown, Waterford, Willington, Windham, Woodstock. Attendance/membership for this group could include, but not be limited to: Any school staff who are responsible for school safety planning in their districts; SROs; Emergency Managers; Public Safety Chiefs/Department Heads; Public Health Officials; any others with vested interest.

- *If you are interested in attending:* pls. send an email with your interest to **Julie C. Wilson** at Jwilson@eastlymepolice.org in order to be added to the meeting email distribution list, and to receive the Zoom Link.
- *Please save the dates* for future School Safety Subcommittee meetings. All meetings will be held 9:30-11:00 and will be Hybrid on Zoom and In-Person. Location of physical meeting rotates; listed in parentheses: **9/27/23 (EASTCONN)**, **10/25/23 (LEARN)**, **11/29/23 (EASTCONN)**. Dates for 2024 to be distributed prior to end of the year.

The DEMHS Region 5 School Safety and Security Working Group

- *When:* 9/28 from 11am-12pm
- *Where:* Virtually
- The mission of this group is to provide a school safety and security network consisting of school resources who can share lessons learned and quality information pertaining to maintaining a safe and secure environment for our schools.
- *If you are interested in attending:* please email **John Field** at John.field@ct.gov.
- *Please save the dates* for future School Safety and Security Working Group Meetings: 10/26/23, 11/23/23, 12/28/23.

The Western Regional Crisis Team Meetings (covering RESC regions of EdAdvance & CES)

- *When:* 9/19 from 8:30am-10:30am
- For our 9/19 meeting, **Kristin Pracitto, Vice President of Child Services at Wellmore**, will be presenting on the Urgent Care Crisis Centers. **Brittini Lourenco, MCIS Team Leader/Clinical Supervisor at Wellmore**, will also be presenting on Emergency Mobile Crisis & how these two services (UCCs and Mobile Crisis) fit within the continuum of care.
- *Where:* Virtually via Zoom
- *Who Should Attend:* These meetings are geared towards the mental health professionals servicing our K-12 students.
- *For more information or to join the Team:* please email **Tanya Iacono** at laconot@wcsu.edu.
- Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 10/17/23, 11/14/23, 12/12/23, 1/23/24, 2/13/24, 3/12/234, 4/23/24, 5/14/24, 6/4/24 - Planning Meeting.

The ACES Regional Crisis Team Meeting

- *When:* 9/21 from 9am-10:30am
- For our 9/21 meeting we have two presenters. Our first presenter is from **The Cove Center for Grieving Children**. The Cove will talk about services that they offer to children and families. Our second presenter is from the **Anti-Defamation League**. ADL will give us information on "No Place for Hate" initiative offer to schools K-12.
- *Who Should Attend:* These meetings are geared towards the mental health professionals servicing our K-12 students.
- *Where:* Virtually via Zoom
- *For more information or to join the Team:* please email **Sadie Witherspoon** at

Witherspoons@wcsu.edu.

- Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 10/19/23, 11/16/23, 12/21/23, 1/18/24, 2/15/24, 3/21/24, 4/18/24, 5/16/24.

The North Central Regional Crisis Team Meeting (Covering RESC Capitol Region Education Council)

- *When:* 9/13 from 9am-10:30am. At this meeting, **Dr. Scott Hannan, Psychologist with the Institute of Living**, will join us to present on Anxiety, OCD, and guidance for parents. Q and A will follow his presentation.
- *Where:* [Zoom Link](#), Meeting ID: 870 9664 2732, Passcode: 856200
- *Who Should Attend:* These meetings are geared towards the mental health professionals servicing our K-12 students.
- *For more information or to join the Team* please email **Kimberly Myers** at Myersk@wcsu.edu.
- Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 9/13/23, 10/11/23, 11/15/23, 12/13/23.

The Northeastern Regional Crisis Team Meetings (EASTCONN RESC region)

- *This team will meet jointly with the Southeastern Regional Crisis team.*
- *When:* 9/13 from 9am-10:30am. At this meeting, **Caitlyn Ogilvie and Judie Nodwell from Child and Family** will join us to present on the Urgent Care Clinic that recently opened in New London. Following the presentation, we've carved out ample time for a Q&A with Caitlyn, Judie, and Sam Robinson from UCFS Mobile Crisis program, so our team members can ask any questions they have about referrals, the continuum of care, and how the programs complement each other, so bring whatever questions you have!
- *Where:* Virtually via Zoom
- *Towns:* Andover, Ashford, Bozrah, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Colchester, Columbia, Coventry, Eastford, Franklin, Griswold, Hampton, Hebron, Killingly, Lebanon, Lisbon, Mansfield, Marlborough, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague, Stafford, Sterling, Thompson, Tolland, Union, Voluntown, Woodstock, Willington, Windham
- *Who Should Attend:* These meetings are geared towards the mental health professionals supporting our K-12 students.
- *For more information or to join the Team:* please email **Kiley Young** at Youngki@wcsu.edu
- Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 10/11/23, 11/8/23, 12/13/23, 1/10/24, 2/14/24, 3/13/24, 4/17/24, 5/8/24, June planning meeting date TBD.

The Southeastern Regional Crisis Team Meetings (LEARN RESC region)

- *This team will meet jointly with the Northeastern Regional Crisis team.*
- *When:* 9/13 from 9:00-10:30am
- *Where:* Virtually via Zoom
- *Towns:* Chester, Clinton, Deep River, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Lyme, Essex, Groton, Guilford, Haddam, Killingworth, Ledyard, Lyme, Madison, Montville, New London, North Stonington, Norwich, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Preston, Salem, Stonington, Waterford, Westbrook
- *Who Should Attend:* These meetings are geared towards the mental health professionals supporting our K-12 students.
- *For more information or to join the Team:* please email **Kiley Young** at Youngki@wcsu.edu
- Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 10/11/23, 11/8/23, 12/13/23, 1/10/24, 2/14/24, 3/13/24, 4/17/24, 5/8/24, June planning meeting date TBD.

CT Center for School Safety Training

Our goal is to make trainings accessible to all Connecticut schools, so our trainings are low cost. However, because we do not want cost to be a barrier, we offer scholarships for individuals and districts who are unable to afford training costs.

- **9/21 - Digital / Social Media Threat Quarterly Training** - presented by **TFC James White, CT State Police and CT Statewide DARE Coordinator (bio)** This **FREE** training is Virtual on Zoom. This is the first of our quarterly trainings sessions that will focus on digital / social media threats and concerning behaviors. It is appropriate for anyone involved in school safety including but not limited to educators, administrators, mental health professionals, security, facility managers, and school resource officers.
- **10/2 - Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines Training** - presented by **Talisha Bond, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist (bio)**. This **FREE** training will be held at Southern Connecticut State University, Engleman Hall, 385 Fitch St., New Haven, CT. This is a one-day workshop on The Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG). CSTAG is an evidence--based model that teaches interdisciplinary school-based teams to respond to student threats of violence by assessing the seriousness of the threat and creating an intervention plan that addresses the underlying problem that led to the threat. CSTAG is currently the only evidence-based school threat assessment model used in more than 3,000 schools in 41 states. Schools that employ CSTAG have lower rates of long-term suspensions, fewer alternative school transfers, fewer bullying incidents, more students engaged in school counseling services and more positive perceptions of school climate. It is appropriate for anyone involved in school safety including but not limited to educators, administrators, mental health professionals, security, facility managers, and school resource officers.
- **10/2, 10/3, 10/4 - Train-the-Trainer Program for the Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines** - presented by **Talisha Bond, Ph.D., Licensed Clinical Psychologist (bio)**. This training will be held at Southern Connecticut State University, New Haven, CT. For more information, cost, and to register for this 3-day training program, please contact **Dr. Amery Bernhardt, D.M.**, at Bernhardta@wcsu.edu.
- **10/13 - School Reunification Workshop & Tabletop Exercise** presented by **Daniel Rector, M.S., C.E.M. (bio)** This **FREE** Training will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Theater of Performing Arts, 359 Washington St. (Corner of Vernon St.) Hartford, CT. This workshop will allow school security and safety teams the opportunity to practice and refine their reunification plans. It is appropriate for anyone involved in school safety including but not limited to educators, administrators, mental health professionals, security, facility managers, and school resource officers.
- **10/24 - Swatting Panel Discussion** This **FREE** Training will be Virtual and will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Swatting is not a new threat, and it has evolved over the last decade. Many techniques and tactics are used to create false public alarm and divert law enforcement resources to hoax threats. The Center is bringing together a panel of experts to discuss this topic and provide guidance to schools on prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery from swatting incidents. It is appropriate for anyone involved in school safety including but not limited to educators, administrators, mental

Additional Trainings

- **9/8 - [Multiple Pathways to Healing - World Suicide Prevention Day Conference](#)** - Clinical Conference sponsored by Hartford HealthCare. It will be held from 8:30am - 1pm at the Hartford Hospital Resource Center (ERC), 510 Hudson Street, Hartford, CT. Attend in person or Virtually. For more information, please contact: Kelsey.Socha@hhchealth.org.
- **9/14 - [Active Shooter Preparedness Webinar](#)** - The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Region 1 (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Vermont) invites you to join a two-hour security webinar to enhance your organization's resilience in case of an active shooter event. Registration for this event is **FREE**. Registration is limited to 400 participants and will close no later than 13 September 2023 at noon (12:00 p.m.) EDT. (This is not a Tactical Training course). For more information, see [Flyer](#).
- **10/5 - [12th Annual Conference](#)** hosted by the **University of Buffalo Alberti Center for Bullying Abuse Prevention**. Through our annual conference, you can gain access to timely, essential information on bullying, victimization and related issues that can be utilized in school and community settings. The conference theme this year is ***Strengthening Support for the Whole School Community*** and it will be held on **Thursday, October 5, 2023 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET** at **Classics V Banquet & Conference Center (2425 Niagara Falls Blvd., Amherst)**, with a livestreaming option for virtual attendees. See [Flyer](#) for more information.
- **[Incident Command System \(ICS\) in Schools An Overview of ICS for Connecticut School Systems](#)** - sponsored by the State of CT Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security. This program is designed to introduce you or re-introduce the concepts of ICS and how they apply to school systems in Connecticut. The program will also cover several resources available to schools. The course is generally delivered as a 2-hour in-person program. For more information, please contact DEMHS Training Points of Contact: **Michael Paradis**, Trainer, POC, email: Michael.Paradis@CT.Gov
- **10/17-10/19 - [2023 Virtual National Summit on School Safety](#)** - Save the Dates! Celebrate #SafeSchoolsWeek with us at this year's National Summit on School Safety! Join us for three days of inspiring keynotes, expert panels, and deep die breakout sessions led by another incredible line-up of national school safety leaders and practitioners.
- **[Especially Safe Program by Safe and](#)**



2023 VIRTUAL
National Summit
On School Safety
Safe Schools. Bright Futures.

SAVE THE DATES!

  **OCTOBER 17-19**
Free to attend the live
broadcast



The graphic features a circular photo of four diverse students smiling. The background is a gradient of blue and orange.

Sound Schools - Introducing our newest program Especially Safe! We created this program to help safety planning teams address the safety and security needs of all members of the community. Learn more about the program and how you can plan and prepare, and teach and train to meet the special needs of students, staff, and visitors in your school community - from developmental disabilities to communication challenges, medical needs to mobility challenges and more.

Especially Safe

An Inclusive Approach to Safety Preparedness in Educational Setting



- ✓ KEYNOTES
- ✓ WEBINARS
- ✓ TRAININGS



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If you have content such as meetings, trainings, resources, and/or research to include in the next issue of our newsletter, please email **Mary Pupazzoni** at Pupazzonim@wcsu.edu no later than the 15th of the month prior.

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