

May 2024 Newsletter



The Connecticut Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation at Western Connecticut State University is funded from appropriations through the CT Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the Office of Higher Education.



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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.

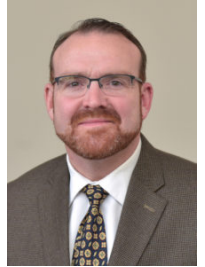


Director's Corner



Dear School Safety Partners,

I hope your Spring is going well! I wanted to provide you with some updates on a few initiatives:



- The DHS TVTP grant is off to a great start. We have been able to provide the **Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines (CSTAG)** training to over 500 participants representing the multidisciplinary school threat assessment teams from 18 school districts. (Please reach out to us if you want to schedule this training free of charge). Also, our Digital Threat Assessment training for May sold out. However, we have another session scheduled for August 20, 2024. Please visit our **training website** for the most current information.
- We have received great feedback from our research, "**Weapons at Connecticut Public Schools: An Examination of Motives and Prevention Methods 2024**." Dr. Lomas and I will be presenting the findings on May 22, 2024, at the **Connecticut School Counselor Association (CSCA) Annual Conference**.
- We are excited to apply for the **Department of Homeland Security Targeted Violence Terrorism Prevention grant**. We have a few school districts and law enforcement agencies that are interested in piloting our comprehensive approach to swatting incidents based on our **Swatting Guidance** and **Swatting Checklist**.

Your partner in school safety,

Amery

Amery Bernhardt, D.M.

Director

CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation

GRANT Opportunities

SchoolSafety.gov

New school safety-related grants have been added to the Grants Finder Tool on SchoolSafety.gov

[Targeted Violence and Terrorism Prevention Grant Program](#) (Deadline: May 17)

[Mental Health Service Professional Demonstration Grant Program](#) (Deadline: May 15)

[Cooperative Agreements for the Garrett Lee Smith State/Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Program](#) (Deadline: June 3)

Provides funding to support states and Tribes with implementing youth (up to age 24) suicide prevention and early intervention strategies in schools, educational institutions, juvenile justice systems, substance use and mental health programs, foster care systems, pediatric health programs, and other child- and youth-serving organizations.

2024 Renew America's Schools Prize (Deadline: June 13)

Provides funding to help districts build capacity, perform energy audits, and plan/implement energy improvement projects across a portfolio of school facilities.

Please note: This funding opportunity consists of three phases. During Phase 1, competitors will build teams and curate lists of at least 10 schools and school facilities that demonstrate compelling need and eligibility for investment. Phase 1 winners will earn a cash prize of \$300,000 and move on to Phases 2 and 3, during which they will enter and execute Cooperative Agreements with the U.S. Department of Energy.

Students, Teachers, and Officers Preventing (STOP) School Violence Program (Deadline: June 12)

Provides funding to improve school safety by providing students, teachers, and staff with the tools they need to recognize, respond quickly to, and prevent acts of violence. This program seeks to increase school safety by implementing solutions that will improve school climate. Solutions include school-based behavioral threat assessments and/or intervention teams to identify school violence risks among students, technological innovations that are shown to increase school safety such as anonymous reporting technology, and other school safety strategies that assist in preventing violence.

Community-Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) Research and Evaluation (Deadline: June 18)

Provides funding for rigorous, independent evaluation projects funded under the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs' (OJP) CVIPI. This solicitation includes two funding categories: 1) evaluation research of programmatic sites funded under the OJP FY23 and FY24 CVIPI solicitations; and 2) evaluation research of other community-violence programs.

To access additional information on these grants as well as find a full list of funding opportunities with upcoming application deadlines, please [CLICK HERE](#).

You can also navigate the Grants Finder Tool's [various features](#) to search for additional grants related to school safety.

If you have any questions, please contact SchoolSafety@hq.dhs.gov.

Additional Funding:

NIJ FY24 Research on Multidisciplinary Teams:

[NIJ FY24 Research on Multidisciplinary Teams | National Institute of Justice \(ojp.gov\)](#)

OVC FY24 Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program:

[OVC FY24 Anti-Trafficking Housing Assistance Program | Office for Victims of Crime \(ojp.gov\)](#)

OJJDP FY24 Strengthening ICAC Technological Investigative Capacity:

[OJJDP FY24 Strengthening ICAC Technological Investigative Capacity | Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention \(ojp.gov\)](#)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES

145 N Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20530

COPS

Community Policing Development (CPD) – Accreditation

CPD is a competitive grant program designed to advance the practice of community policing by providing guidance on promising practices through the development and testing of innovative strategies; building knowledge about effective practices and outcomes; and supporting new, creative approaches to preventing crime and promoting safe

communities. The CPD –Accreditation program will encompass three separate solicitations for the following purposes:

- Support for law enforcement agencies seeking accreditation;
- Support and enhancement of existing law enforcement accreditation bodies to facilitate the ability of agencies to become accredited; and
- Establishment of accreditation entities in states that do not have an accreditation body.

Approximately \$6.5 million is available for this program. **Applications are due by May 28, 2024 at 4:59 PM ET. Please click [here](#) for more information on the 2024 CPD – Accreditation program.**

The Fiscal Year 2024 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) is a competitive award program designed to provide funding directly to law enforcement agencies to hire and/or rehire additional career law enforcement officers in an effort to increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

Anticipated outcomes of the CHP program awards include engagement in planned community partnerships, implementation of projects to analyze and assess problems, implementation of changes to personnel and agency management in support of community policing, and increased capacity of agency to engage in community policing activities.

OPEN:

The FY 24 COPS Hiring Program (CHP) will close on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 4:59 PM ET.*

*IMPORTANT: Applications will be submitted in a two-step process, each with its own deadline.

STEP 1: Submit an SF-424 and an SF-LLL in [Grants.gov](#).

GRANTS.GOV APPLICATION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, JUNE 6, 2024 (4:59 PM ET).

STEP 2: Submit the full application including attachments in [JustGrants](#).

JUSTGRANTS APPLICATION DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12, 2024 (4:59 PM ET).

For additional assistance we encourage you to visit the [How to Apply page](#), which includes frequently asked questions, appendices, additional fact sheets, links to webinars, and other resources.

RESOURCES

SchoolSafety.gov

School Safety.Gov Resources

Cybersecurity Resources

[Cybersecurity Resources for K-12 Schools and School Districts](#)

This infographic provides information on the K-12 cyber threat landscape and strategies and resources school personnel can use to prevent and protect against cyberattacks and digital threats.

Planning Considerations for Cyber Incidents: Guidance for Emergency Managers

This guide is intended to help state, local, tribal, and territorial emergency management personnel collaboratively prepare for a cyber incident and support the development of a cyber incident response plan or annex.

Emergency Planning Resources

[Crisis Navigation in Trauma-Informed, Resilience-Oriented Schools](#)

This self-paced training assists school leaders in creating and strengthening a site crisis navigation team. During the course, presenters discuss anticipating the outcomes of a crisis, identifying how to use the broad range of skills represented by those on the school crisis response team, and better anticipating the future needs of the school population and developing plans to meet those needs.

School Safety Drills and Exercises for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD): Tips and Resources for Educators. This resource provides considerations on school safety drills and exercises for students with ASD. It includes advocacy guidance for educators and offers school safety drill and exercise ideas for students with ASD.

Violence Prevention Resources

[Enhancing School Safety Using a Threat Assessment Model: An Operational Guide for Preventing Targeted School Violence](#). This guide provides actionable steps that schools can take to develop comprehensive targeted violence prevention plans and create processes and procedures for conducting threat assessments.

[School Tip Line Toolkit: A Blueprint for Implementation and Sustainability](#)

This guide is designed to help educators, law enforcement professionals, community leaders, and school safety experts navigate key decisions and consider the factors necessary to support successful and efficient tip line implementation as part of an overall school safety strategy.

Visit [SchoolSafety.gov](#) for additional resources to support school safety and security efforts.

School Safety and Reporting Program Resources for the K-12 Community

[SchoolSafety.gov](#) released a new [infographic](#) that highlights strategies and resources to enhance student and school safety through the use of reporting programs. The infographic includes specific actions K-12 schools and school districts can take to enable, improve, and sustain reporting systems and create an environment that empowers students to share concerns. Continue reading to learn more and [download this new resource](#) to share with others in your school community.

Reduce the threat of violence and enhance student safety by creating a reliable reporting program and school environment where anyone can seek help. Reporting programs for K-12 schools and districts can serve as vital channels for students and school community members to report concerns regarding wellness and safety. When concerns are identified, schools can facilitate early intervention and support for students in need, better address issues such as bullying and suicide risk, and in some cases, prevent potential acts of targeted violence.

There are several actions that schools and districts can take to implement reporting systems and build a supporting culture of safety and trust. These include:

- Establishing a centralized and accessible reporting system by offering diverse reporting avenues, including an option that allows for anonymous or confidential reporting, so that individuals are more willing and able to report.
- Evaluating and addressing reports in a manner that builds confidence and credibility in the reporting process.
- Creating and promoting a supportive school climate by cultivating trusting relationships between students, teachers, and staff and fostering an environment where students feel encouraged and empowered in sharing concerns.
- Providing training and generating awareness so that all members of the school community are educated and reminded about their options to report wellness and safety issues.

For additional reporting and school safety resources, visit [SchoolSafety.gov's threat assessment and reporting page](#) and [targeted violence page](#). If you have any questions, please contact SchoolSafety@hq.dhs.gov.

Heat-Resilient School Resources from the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation

Brief:

[Protecting Californians with Heat Resilient Schools](#)

Infographics:

[The Problem with Hot Schools - Infographics on Heat-Resilient Schools](#)

Changing Behavior on Hot School Days Fact Sheet:

[California School Heat Equity Action Area # 4](#)

Heat Resilient Schools Resource Kit:

[Protecting Californians from Deadly Heat](#)

Understanding Epilepsy School Resources from the [Epilepsy Foundation](#)

[Seizure Training for School Personnel Online Program](#)

Epilepsy in Schools from the CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Provide Your School with the Right Tools to Manage Epilepsy](#)



Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance (TA) Center

Listed below are resources provided by the [REMS TA Center](#). Please check out their [interactive brochure](#) on the **FREE** services and products that they offer. Review and share it with your colleagues as you engage in emergency preparedness activities all year long. The REMS TA Center added to many of these resources in 2023, including synchronous and asynchronous trainings, EOP interactive tools, publications and guidance documents, and more.

Timeless School Safety Strategy Series: Focus on All-Hazards Emergency Planning

It can be challenging for schools not to overfocus on specific hazards, such as potential severe weather events from the onset of spring or violent incidents that have impacted their school or other schools. Community pressure or other stakeholders may often influence the school to focus more time, effort, and resources on one threat or hazard that may have a lower probability of occurring than others. Remember that overplanning for one threat or hazard event may leave your school or district underprepared for threats and hazards that happen more frequently at your school, the community, or region.

A comprehensive school emergency planning process must consider various possible threats and hazards that may impact the school or district, addressing safety needs before, during, and after an incident. This all-hazards collaborative emergency planning approach identifies those threats and hazards that are most likely to impact (or ones that have historically impacted) your area. You can find more information on this emergency planning approach within the [Guide for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans \(School Guide\)](#) and [The Role of Districts in Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans \(District Guide\)](#).

In Step 2 of the planning process, described within both guides, understanding the situation by identifying all potential threats and hazards and assessing the risks and vulnerabilities posed by those threats and hazards is an effective planning strategy. If you are looking for resources to further support your planning efforts, your planning team can find resources from the REMS TA Center and our federal and national partners for using an all-hazards approach for planning for emergency incidents on our website on our topic-specific web page.

In Step 2 of the planning process, described within both guides, understanding the situation by identifying all potential threats and hazards and assessing the risks and vulnerabilities posed by those threats and hazards is an effective planning strategy. If you are looking for resources to further support your planning efforts, your planning team can find resources from the REMS TA Center and our federal and national partners for using an all-hazards approach for planning for emergency incidents on our website on our [topic-specific web page](#).

If you have created or used tools and resources to address cybersecurity and cyber safety at your campus, please submit them for inclusion in our REMS TA Center [Tool Box](#).

If you have any questions or need additional assistance, please contact the REMS TA Center at 1-855-781-REMS [7367] or via email at info@remstacenter.org.

READ MORE FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

RESEARCH

About 1 in 4 U.S. teachers say their school went into a gun-related lockdown in the last school year. [The Pew Research Center](#) conducted this analysis to better understand public K-12 teachers' views on school shootings, how prepared they feel for a potential active shooter, and how they feel about policies that could help prevent future shootings. The full report can be accessed [here](#).



2,531 U.S. public K-12 teachers from Oct. 17 to Nov. 14, 2023 were surveyed. The teachers are members of RAND's American Teacher Panel, a nationally representative panel of public school k-12 teachers recruited through MDR Education. Survey data is weighted to state and national teacher characteristics to account for differences in sampling and response to ensure they are representative of the target population. Data from 2022 survey of U.S. parents was also used.

[The Pew Research Center](#) is a nonpartisan fact tank that informs the public about the issues, attitudes and trends shaping the world. We conduct public opinion polling, demographic research, content analysis and other data-driven social science research.

About 1 in 4 U.S. teachers say their school went into a gun-related lockdown in the last school year by [Kiley Hurst](#)

Twenty-five years after the [mass shooting at Columbine High School in Colorado](#), a majority of public K-12 teachers (59%) say they are at least somewhat worried about the possibility of a shooting ever happening at their school. This includes 18% who say they're extremely or very worried, according to a new Pew Research Center survey.

How we did this:

[The Pew Research Center](#) conducted this analysis to better understand public K-12 teachers' views on school shootings, how prepared they feel for a potential active shooter, and how they feel about policies that could help prevent future shootings.

To do this, we surveyed 2,531 U.S. public K-12 teachers from Oct. 17 to Nov. 14, 2023. The teachers are members of RAND's American Teacher Panel, a nationally representative panel of public school K-12 teachers recruited through MDR Education. Survey data is weighted to state and national teacher characteristics to account for differences in sampling and response to ensure they are representative of the target population.

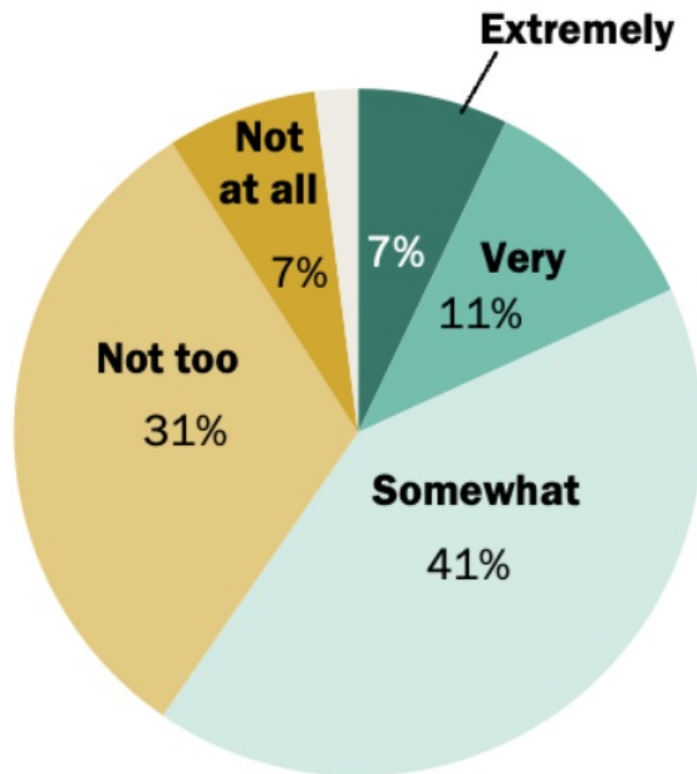
We also used data from our 2022 survey of U.S. parents. For that project, we surveyed 3,757 U.S. parents with at least one child younger than 18 from Sept. 20 to Oct. 2, 2022. Find more details about the [survey of parents here](#). Here are the [questions used for this analysis](#), along with responses, and the survey [methodology](#).

Another 31% of teachers say they are not too worried about a shooting occurring at their school. Only 7% of teachers say they are not at all worried.

This survey comes at a time when [school shootings are at a record high](#) (82 in 2023) and gun safety continues to be a topic in [2024 election campaigns](#).

A majority of teachers are at least somewhat worried about a shooting occurring at their school

% of public K-12 teachers who say they are ___ worried about the possibility of a shooting ever happening at their school



Note: The 2% of respondents who didn't offer an answer are shown but not labeled.

Source: Survey of U.S. public K-12 teachers conducted Oct. 17-Nov. 14, 2023.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Teachers' experiences with lockdowns

About a quarter of teachers (23%) say

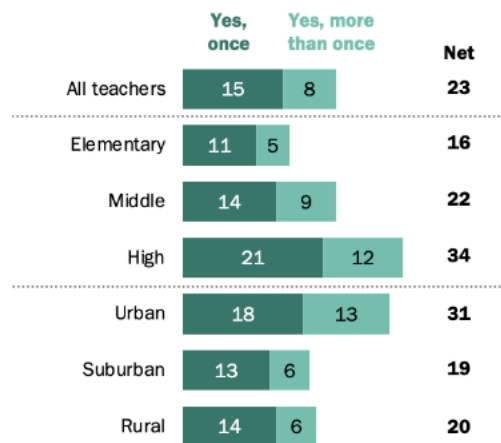
About a quarter of teachers (23%) say they experienced a lockdown in the 2022-23 school year because of a gun or suspicion of a gun at their school. Some 15% say this happened once during the year, and 8% say this happened more than once.

High school teachers are most likely to report experiencing these lockdowns: 34% say their school went on at least one gun-related lockdown in the last school year. This compares with 22% of middle school teachers and 16% of elementary school teachers.

Teachers in urban schools are also more likely to say that their school had a gun-related lockdown. About a third of these teachers (31%) say this, compared with 19% of teachers in suburban schools and 20% in rural schools.

About 1 in 4 teachers say their school had a gun-related lockdown last year

% of public K-12 teachers saying their school went on lockdown in the 2022-23 school year because of a gun or suspicion of a gun on school property



* Among those who have been teaching for at least one year.
 Note: Figures may not add to subtotals due to rounding.
 Source: Survey of U.S. public K-12 teachers conducted Oct. 17-Nov. 14, 2023.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Do teachers feel their school has prepared them for an active shooter?

About four-in-ten teachers (39%) say their school has done a fair or poor job providing them with the training and resources they need to deal with a potential active shooter.

A smaller share (30%) give their school an excellent or very good rating, and another

3 in 10 teachers say their school has done an excellent or very good job preparing them for an active shooter

30% say their school has done a good job preparing them.

Teachers in urban schools are the *least* likely to say their school has done an excellent or very good job preparing them for a potential active shooter. About one-in-five (21%) say this, compared with 32% of teachers in suburban schools and 35% in rural schools.

Teachers who have police officers or armed security stationed in their school are more likely than those who don't to say their school has done an excellent or very good job preparing them for a potential active shooter (36% vs. 22%).

Overall, 56% of teachers say they have police officers or armed security stationed at their school. Majorities in rural schools (64%) and suburban schools (56%) say this, compared with 48% in urban schools.

Only 3% of teachers say teachers and administrators at their school are allowed to carry guns in school. This is slightly more common in school districts where a majority of voters cast ballots for Donald Trump in 2020 than in school districts where a majority of voters cast ballots for Joe Biden (5% vs. 1%).

preparing them for an active shooter
 % of public K-12 teachers who say their school is doing a ___ job providing them with the training and resources they need to deal with a potential active shooter in their school

	Excellent/ Very good	Good	Fair/Poor
All teachers	30	30	39
Urban	21	31	45
Suburban	32	29	38
Rural	35	28	35

Note: Shares of respondents who didn't offer an answer are not shown.
 Source: Survey of U.S. public K-12 teachers conducted Oct. 17-Nov. 14, 2023.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

What strategies do teachers think could help prevent school shootings?

The survey also asked teachers how effective some measures would be at preventing school shootings.

Most teachers (69%) say **improving mental health screening and treatment for children and adults** would be

69% of teachers say better mental health treatment would be highly effective in preventing school shootings

% of public K-12 teachers saying each of the following would be ___ effective at preventing school shootings

	Extremely/ Very	Somewhat	Not too/ Not at all
Improving mental health screening and treatment for children and adults	69	24	5
Having police officers or armed security stationed in schools	49	33	16
Having metal	33	39	26

and adults would be extremely or very effective.



Note: Shares of respondents who didn't offer an answer are not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. public K-12 teachers conducted Oct. 17-Nov. 14, 2023.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER

About half (49%) say **having police officers**

or armed security in schools would be highly effective, while 33% say the same about **metal detectors** in schools.

Just 13% say **allowing teachers and school administrators to carry guns in schools** would be extremely or very effective at preventing school shootings. Seven-in-ten teachers say this would be not too or not at all effective.

To Read More Click [HERE](#)



Meetings - Please look for meetings in your Region.

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:** 6/11/24 from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- **Where:** *In-Person at The Burroughs Community Center*
- **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.

Please save the dates for future Region 1 Gambling Awareness Team meetings: Meetings held the 2nd Tuesday of the month, Quarterly; from 2:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Region 2 Gambling Awareness Team focuses on raising awareness and promoting prevention, treatment, and recovery from problem gambling and gaming across the lifespan. All are welcome to attend our meetings and get involved. We meet bimonthly and host events, trainings, and attend regular outreach events. Our next meeting is:

- **When:** 6/20/24 at 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- **Where:** *Virtually via Zoom.*
- **Who Should Attend:** *Meetings are open to all.*
- **RSVP at [Zoom Link](#)**

For additional info, contact [Brailee Whan](mailto:bwhan@bhcare.org) at bwhan@bhcare.org. Please click [Here](#) for the link to Join.

The DEMHS Region 2 School Safety & Security Group Meeting

- **When:** 6/19/24 from 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- **Where:** *Virtually*
- **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. As always, we ask others to share this great networking opportunity with all of their school safety partners. Please share my contact information as well. Those who are interested in being part of our group are encouraged to email their contact information to [Jeff Nielsen](mailto:Jnielsen@milforded.org) at Jnielsen@milforded.org. Group memberships includes receiving correspondence related to meeting announcements and information related to school safety/security.*

Region 2/South Central Regional Behavioral Health Action Organization

Alliance for Prevention & Wellness / A Program of BHcare

Regional Suicide Advisory Board (RSAB) Meetings

- **When:** 6/4/24 at 10:30 a.m.
- **Where:** Virtually
- Region 2 RSAB supports the overall vision of the statewide CT Suicide Advisory Board, the goals and objectives of the CT Suicide Prevention Plan, and provides the local and regional infrastructure for activities.
- **Who Should Attend:** For those within Region 2's territory: Ansonia, Bethany, Branford, Chester, Clinton, Cromwell, Deep River, Derby, Durham, East Haddam, East Hampton, East Haven, Essex, Guilford, Haddam, Hamden, Killingworth, Lyme, Madison, Meriden, Middlefield, Middletown, Milford, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Old Lyme, Old Saybrook, Orange, Portland, Seymour, Shelton, Wallingford, Westbrook, West Haven, Woodbridge. For more information, please contact **Taylor Gainey**, MHA, at **Tgainey@bhcare.org**. Please save the dates for future RSAB meetings. All meetings will be held on the first Tuesday, bi-monthly. Meetings: 8/6, 10/1, 12/3

The DEMHS Region 3 Capitol Emergency Management Meeting

- **When:** Meetings Reconvene in September
- **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 Claudia Nardi at Cnardi@cantonschools.org** or call 860-693-7704 if you plan on attending or sending a representative.

The DEMHS Region 4 ESF-5 School Safety Sub-Committee

- **When:** 5/1/24 from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
- **Where:** Hybrid (Both Zoom and In-Person) In-Person held at East Lyme Public Safety Complex located at 277 West Main Street, Niantic, CT.
- **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: Please 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 from 9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. and will be Hybrid on Zoom and In-Person. Meetings: 5/1/24, 6/5/24, 8/7/24, 9/4/24, 10/2/24, 11/6/24, 12/4/24.

Newly formed - DEMHS School Reunification Planning Committee (Note: meets (Hybrid) immediately after the Region 4 ESF-5 School Safety Sub-Committee Meeting)

- **When:** 5/1/24 from 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
- **Where:** Hybrid (Both Zoom and In-Person) In-Person held at East Lyme Public Safety Complex located at 277 West Main Street, Niantic, CT.
- **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: Please 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 Reunification Planning Committee Meetings. All meetings will be held 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and will be Hybrid on Zoom and In-Person. Meetings: 6/5/24.

The DEMHS Region 5 School Safety and Security Working Group

- **When:** 5/23/24 from 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

- **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: 6/27/24, 7/25/24, 8/22/24, 9/26/24, 10/24/24, 11/28/24, 12/28/24.*

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

- **When:** 5/14/24 from 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
- **Topic/Presenter:** At this meeting the Speaker will be **Abigail Wood Maldonado** from the Western CT Coalition and she will be presenting on Suicide Postvention.
- **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 **Iaconot@wcsu.edu**. Please save the dates for future Regional Crisis Team Meetings: 6/4/24 - Planning Meeting.

The ACES Regional Crisis Team Meeting (covering the RESC South Central Region)

- **When:** 5/16/24 from 9:30 -11:00 a.m.
- **Topic/Presenter:** At this meeting the Speaker will be **Captain Dan Papoosha** from CT Security Risk Group/Gang Management Unit to present to us timely information on gang intelligence in Connecticut and their impact on our school communities. His presentation will start at 9:30 a.m. because there is a lot to cover. The meeting is interactive so please bring any questions you many have. I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting.
- **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 **Sadie Witherspoon** at **Witherspoons@wcsu.edu**. June planning meeting date TBD.

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

- **When:** 5/8/24 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- **Topic/Presenter:** At this meeting the Speaker will be **Dr. Paula Gill Lopez**, a Founding Member of the CT Center for School Safety and Associate Professor & Program Director at Fairfield University, to do a presentation and a discussion on Care for the Caregiver and Mindfulness.
- **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 **Kimberly Myers** at **Myersk@wcsu.edu**.

The Northeastern Regional Crisis Team Meetings (covering the EASTCONN RESC region)

- This team will meet jointly with the Southeastern Regional Crisis team.
- **When:** 5/8/24 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- **Topic/Presenter:** At this meeting the Speaker will be **Angela Duhaime** of SERAC to talk a little bit more about some of the recovery supports our team often loops SERAC in to provide following a crisis, including Post-Traumatic Stress Management and Psychological First Aid. Please bring any questions you have for Angela.
- **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**. June planning meeting date TBD.

The Southeastern Regional Crisis Team Meetings (covering the LEARN RESC region)

- This team will meet jointly with the Northeastern Regional Crisis team.
- **When:** 5/8/24 from 9:00 - 10:30 a.m.
- **Topic/Presenter:** At this meeting the Speaker will be **Angela Duhaime** of SERAC to talk a little bit more about some of the recovery supports our team often loops SERAC in to provide following a crisis, including Post-Traumatic Stress Management and Psychological First Aid. Please bring any questions you have for Angela.

- **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](mailto:Kiley.Young@wcsu.edu) at Youngki@wcsu.edu. 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.



August 20 | [Digital Threat Assessment® \(DTA\)](#) Virtual Training Session from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Presented by Safer Schools Together (SST). This Training is being brought to you at no cost. DTA® teaches participants to establish a Digital Behavioral Baseline through a School Safety/Threat Assessment (SS/TA) lens. By engaging with popular social media applications, you will learn how to find and document worrisome digital content originating from your school community. This training solidifies your understanding of how to effectively use DTA as a critical part of any modern-day Threat Assessment. You will learn how to find individuals who are the subject of your threat assessment and document your research findings. **The CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation** was awarded a grant by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to bring this training to districts in CT **FREE of charge** (*DTA typically costs \$229 per individual*). This project is funded by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships, opportunity # DHS-23-TTP-132-00-01. **Intended Audience:** This training is appropriate for anyone involved in school safety including but not limited to educators, administrators, IT directors, mental health professionals, law enforcement officers, security, facility managers and school resource officers.

MORE Trainings and Events





REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

 **May 29 & 30 • Bowling Green, KY**

Rethink school safety at the Southeast School Safety Summit. Learn and network with nationally recognized speakers and walk away with best practices and programs for comprehensive school safety.

SAVE \$50 WITH CODE **CTSafety**

 **Register Today To Save Your Seat**



- **May 29 & 30 | [Southeast School Safety Summit](#)** - Hosted by: *Safe and Sound Schools*. Featuring nationally recognized speakers and a powerful agenda, attendees from across the US will walk away with established best practices, proven methods and essential strategies vital to keeping campuses safe.
 - More than 25 experts
 - 18 sessions, including topics like Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM), safety preparation for frontline personnel, SRO success stories, crisis preparation and more!
- **Safe and Sound Schools is offering \$50 off registration for our CT Center for School Safety members!** Use promo code **CTSafety** when registering to take advantage of this special offer.
- See the Agenda and **[Register Here](#)**.

MAY - JUNE - AUGUST TRAINING and EVENTS

May 1 or May 15 | [Staff & System Wellness: You Can't Have One Without the Other](#) - Hosted by: *Cooperative Educational Services (CES)*. This **FREE** In-Person workshop will be held at Cooperative Educational Services in Trumbull, CT. from 9 am to

May 20 | [Foundations of Trauma Informed Care](#) - Hosted by: *Cooperative Educational Services (CES)*. This **FREE** In-Person workshop will be held at Cooperative Educational Services in Trumbull, CT. from 9 am to 12

FREE
SPRING
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

UPLIFT: A TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS
IN PERSON TRAINING AT
COOPERATIVE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES
TRUMBULL, CT

FOUNDATIONS OF TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE
4/26 (12-3 PM) OR 5/20 (9 AM-12PM)

STAFF & SYSTEM WELLNESS: YOU CAN'T HAVE ONE WITHOUT THE OTHER
5/1 (9 AM-12 PM) OR 5/15 (9 AM-12PM)

FOSTERING PHYSICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL SAFETY FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS
5/29 (9 AM-12 PM) OR 6/5 (9 AM-12PM)

Register in Protraxx at bit.ly/PDSatCESprotraxx

DANA BOSSIO
M.A., 6TH YEAR CERTIFICATE
REGIONAL TRAUMA COORDINATOR

Intended Audience:
All district staff, including general educators, related service providers, specialists, special educators, mental health professionals, administrators, nursing staff, clerical staff, custodial staff, etc.

BOSSIO@CESTRUMBULL.ORG | 203-365-8328 | WWW.CES.K12.CT.US

services in Trumbull, CT, from 9 am to 12 pm. Register in Protraxx at bit.ly/PDSatCESprotraxx. **Intended Audience:** All district staff, including general educators, related service providers, specialists, special educators, mental health professionals, administrators, nursing staff, clerical staff, custodial staff, etc. For more information, please see [Flyer](#)

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CONNECTICUT
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR
ASSOCIATION

May 22 | [2024 Connecticut School Counselor Association \(CSCA\) Annual Conference](#). The annual CSCA

Conference is back at Sacred Heart University - West Campus in Fairfield, CT. The theme is Thrive & Grow. This premier event brings together K-12 grade school counselors from across the state, representing urban, suburban, and rural school districts. Some of the goals are to share experiences, perspectives, insights and the latest trends in the counseling and educational related field. Our Keynote Speaker is **Anne Zinn**, the Connecticut 2023 School Counselor of the Year.

Dr. Gabe Lomas and Dr. Amery Bernhardt will be presenting on "Why kids in Connecticut bring weapons to school and what school counselors can do about it". There are 30+ amazing breakout sessions this year! There is something for everyone K-12 and at all experience levels! This year you will have the opportunity to attend 3 sessions. See the list of breakout sessions and their descriptions [Here](#) and in our NEW CONFERENCE APP you will be able to access after you register! Register [Here](#).

UPLIFT
A TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SCHOOLS

The UPLIFT Vision
One day, schools across the state will infuse a trauma-

May 22nd

One day, schools across the state will infuse a trauma-informed lens into existing practices, realizing that this shift is critical for the well-being of their students and will positively impact the climate for everyone in the building.

FOUNDATIONS OF TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

This training offers school-based personnel a basic understanding of trauma and trauma-informed care practices at all tiers, from universal practices to individual supports. Participants will develop competency around defining and discussing trauma and common trauma symptoms, as well as potential repercussions of trauma and toxic stress on neurological development, behavior and learning. Participants will develop a deeper understanding of a trauma-informed care framework, and how this intersects with existing school initiatives (e.g., school climate, MTSS, SEL, DEI, restorative practices, etc.).

STAFF & SYSTEM WELLNESS

The wellness of our adults reflects the wellness of our youth; supporting adults in the current educational climate is a critical element of the process of schools becoming trauma-informed. This module examines the impact that traumatic stress has on school employees and how this affects motivation and effectiveness in their personal and professional lives. While some of the common barriers to self- and community-care are addressed, we will focus on specific strategies & the positive impacts made when schools and districts prioritize staff wellness and resilience.

FOSTERING SAFETY FOR TRAUMA-INFORMED SCHOOLS

While we often consider physical safety in schools, do we reflect enough on whether or not students, staff & families *feel* safe? Participants will discuss how to make physical spaces and traditional practices (e.g., routines, active supervision, safety drills, etc.) more trauma-informed. Strategies to support psychological safety will be explored, with a specific focus on the sequence of engagement, including co-regulation and relationship building. Utilizing a case study, participants will explore how to replace negative consequences with natural consequences and restorative practices that more sustainably establish felt safety for students, staff and families.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT UPLIFT SCAN HERE



May 1 & 2 | [WAVR-21 A Structured Guide for the Assessment of Workplace and Campus Violence Risk](#) - Hosted by: *Dr. Stephen White and Dr. Reid Meloy*. The workshop will cover the foundations and proper use of the WAVR-21, and best practices in threat assessment and management in work and campus settings. This workshop will be held in **Atlanta and is available **In-Person or Virtually**. For more information, please contact **Dr. White or Sandy Ryan** at Sryan@wavr21.com.**



May 2 | [CT Suicide Prevention Conference 2024 Inspiring Hope: Coming Together for Suicide Prevention](#) - Hosted by: *The CT Suicide Advisory Board (CSTAB)*.

There is **no fee** to attend this conference. Space is limited. It will be held at the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel in Rocky Hill, CT. The Keynote Presentation is: *How Anti-Black Racism is Fueling the Youth Mental Health Crisis*. For more information and to Register, please click [Here](#).



May 2 | [2024 Connecticut School Counselor Awards Gala](#) - Hosted by: *CT School Counselor Association (CSCA)*. You are cordially invited to

attend our 2024 CT School Counselor Awards Ceremony commencing at 5 pm at the University of CT at Storrs. For more information and to Register, please click [Here](#).

May 6-10 in Hartford | [CABLE Crisis Intervention Team \(CIT\) - 40 Hour Training](#) - Hosted by: *The CT Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement*. This course prepares law enforcement officers and other public safety personnel with the skills to assist others in crisis. The course is an intensive 40-hour, five-day curriculum that is comprised of both classroom instruction and practical exercise delivered by mental health professionals, other subject matter experts and CIT law enforcement instructors. This course will be held at the Hartford Police Academy in Hartford. POST credit is available. Cost: \$189 per participant. Please see

Erin Belfort, MD
 Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director at Maine Medical Center

Social Media & Youth Mental Health

May 23, 2024
 12 PM - 1 PM
 via Zoom

Real-time chat

CEU credit available

For an application, please contact Taylor Gainey at tgainey@bhcare.org

Alliance O

May 23 | [Social Media & Youth Mental Health Webinar](#) presented by **Erin Belfort, MD** Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director at Maine Medical Center - *Sponsored by the Alliance for Prevention & Wellness A Program of BHcare*. This Virtual Webinar will take place from 12 - 1 pm via Zoom.

After this webinar, attendees will Understand recent trends in adolescent social media use; learn how adolescents navigate developmental tasks in online spaces; appreciate the potential positive and negative mental health and developmental outcomes for adolescent using social media. CEU credit is available for this event. Please contact **Taylor Gainey** at tgainey@bhcare.org for more information.

Erin Belfort, MD
 Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director at Maine Medical Center

Social Media & Youth Mental Health

May 23, 2024
 12 PM - 1 PM
 via Zoom

After the webinar, attendees will:

- Understand recent trends in adolescent social media use.
- Learn how adolescents navigate developmental tasks in online spaces.

website for more information - www.cablect.com.



May 8 | [Question, Persuade, Refer \(QPR\) Suicide Prevention Training](#) - Hosted by: South Central Region Behavioral Health Action Organization (Alliance for Prevention & Wellness / A Program of BHcare). QPR Training

gives you the skills and knowledge to intervene to possibly prevent suicide. Learn how to get help for yourself, learn more about preventing suicide, common causes of suicidal behavior, warning signs of suicide and how to get help for someone in crisis. For more information, please email **Taylor Gainey, MHA**, at Tgainey@bhcare.org.

May 8 & 9 | [Response to Recovery A Child Abuse Conference](#) - Hosted by: CT Children's Alliance, CT Against Domestic Violence, and CT Alliance to End Sexual Violence).

The Conference will be held at **The First Cathedral Church, in Bloomfield, CT**. The Conference is an opportunity for disciplines across the state to come together and learn how to strengthen their response to child abuse and exploitation cases across CT. This year's conference will offer workshops on preventing child abuse including primary prevention, actions taken to prevent child abuse and neglect before it occurs, such as education parents and caregivers on positive parenting techniques, providing support series to families in need, and promoting community awareness and engagement.



May 8, July 11, September 12 | [Enhancing School Safety Using Behavioral Threat Assessment](#) - Hosted by: The U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center

(NTAC). In this virtual training event, NTAC researchers highlight the key findings and implications from our research on school violence prevention. In this training, you will learn about the background, thinking, and behavior of school attackers and how some schools discovered and stopped plots before violence occurred. This training will provide guidance on how schools may develop or improve existing violence prevention programs utilizing a behavioral threat assessment model. **Intended Audience:** School teachers, administrators, counsellors, mental health professionals, school resource officers (SROs) law enforcement officers, and other school safety stakeholders.

May 10 | [CABLE Crisis Intervention Team \(CIT\) Coordinator Training](#) - Hosted by: The CT Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement. *This no cost training is generously subsidized by the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.* This course provides training and information for those currently acting as the CIT coordinator / liaison for their agency as well as those seeking to establish a more formal CIT program in their agency. Topics include CIT department policy development, CIT models and more.

[Register here](#)



CEU credit available

For any questions, please contact **Taylor Gainey** at tgainey@bhcare.org.



• Appreciate the potential positive and negative mental health and developmental outcomes for adolescents using social media.

Bio

Dr. Erin Belfort attended medical school at the University of Vermont College of Medicine followed by residency in general psychiatry at the Harvard Longwood Psychiatry Residency Training Program and Child & Adolescent Psychiatry fellowship training at Cambridge Hospital/Harvard Medical School. She is currently the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Training Director at Maine Medical Center and an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Tufts University School of Medicine. Her academic interests include gender affirming mental health care, family therapy teaching and the risks and benefits of social media use for adolescents. She is currently the co-chair of the Media Committee and a member of the Consumer Issues Committee (CIC) at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP).



May 29 or June 5 | [Fostering Physical & Psychological Safety for Trauma-Informed Schools](#) - Hosted by: Cooperative Educational Services (CES). This **FREE** In-Person workshop will be held at Cooperative Educational Services in Trumbull, CT. from 9 am to 12 pm.

Register in Protraxx at bit.ly/PDSatCESprotraxx.

Intended Audience: All district staff, including general educators, related service providers, specialists, special educators, mental health professionals, administrators, nursing staff, clerical staff, custodial staff, etc. If you need additional information, please contact **Dana M. Bossio, M.A.**, Regional Trauma Coordinator, at bossiod@cestrumbull.org.



May 29 & 30 | [Southeast School Safety Summit](#) - Hosted by: Safe and Sound Schools. Featuring nationally recognized speakers and a powerful agenda, attendees from across the US will walk away with established best practices, proven methods

and essential strategies vital to keeping campuses safe.

- More than 25 experts
- 18 sessions, including topics like Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM), safety preparation for frontline personnel, SRO success stories, crisis preparation and more!
- **Safe and Sound Schools is offering \$50 off registration for our CT Center for School Safety members!** Use promo code **CTSafety** when registering to take advantage of this special offer.
- See the Agenda and [Register Here](#).

May 30-June 27 | [Breaking Down Bias Summer 2024 - Online Course](#) - Sponsored by: The Anti-Defamation League (ADL). Join K-12 educators from around the country in this self-paced, interactive, 4-week online learning journey. Receive 20 PD credits while developing strategies for recognizing and challenging bias in yourself, your classroom and your schools. For more information, please email education@adl.org.

CABLE PEER SUPPORT TRAINING

OVERVIEW

This comprehensive 35-hour course led by local and national experts will provide guidelines, information and recommendations for developing and maintaining a Peer Support Team in an agency utilizing national standards. Upon completion of this training, participants will be able to begin or continue managing a peer support team, recognize common signs and symptoms of a colleague in need of support and provide that support, have an understanding of how to respond to critical incidents on a micro and macro level. Those attending will also receive training related to confidentiality, legal considerations, stress management, suicide prevention and early intervention, substance use and mental health issues as well as best practices for managing specific incidents that peer support personnel regularly face.

Attendees will be certified in Individual and Group Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc. (ICISF). Law enforcement attendees completing the course will receive 30 hours of review training credit in Human Relations (Area 400).

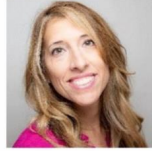
Open to active Law Enforcement, Fire, EMS and Dispatch COURSE INSTRUCTORS



Lt. Mike Fumiatti



Dr. Dara Rampersad,
Ph.D. LPC, NCC



Vicki Hixson, M.Ed.

REGISTER



LEARN
MORE

WWW.CABLECT.COM

MAY 13-17, 2024 - 8:00 AM-4:00 PM
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY - HAMDEN, CT

CISM & Advanced Peer Support (5/13 - 5/17)
\$319.00

Advanced Peer Support ONLY (5/15 - 5/17)
\$169.00



May 13 | [Elementary Counselor Roundtable](#) - Hosted by: CT School

Counselor Association (CSCA). Please join

CSCA for a virtual roundtable discussion facilitated by **Casey Sollazzo**, Elementary School Liaison. Celebrate your wins from the 2023-2024 school year along with areas you could use support.



May 14 | [Taking Steps Toward Collaboration & Mutuality](#) - Hosted by:

the CREC RESC Alliance. This Free and Virtual module is part of the UPLIFT Trauma-Informed Care Practice Series. In this Virtual training, participants will explore the nuances and many variables that exist when implementing collaboration

strategies aimed at students, staff, caregivers, or community members. To learn more, please see [Flyer](#).

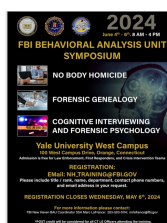
May 14 | [Turning Assessment Data Into Dollars Maximizing Resources & Securing Grants](#) - sponsored by

MS-ISAC & EI-ISAC) This webinar will run from 2 - 3 pm. Many organizations struggle to find the resources to adequately protect their systems from cyber threats. At surface level, the Nationwide Cybersecurity Review (NCSR) program may seem to be one of several assessment tools needed for compliance purposes. Yet, the NCSR generates powerful data you can use to secure additional funds towards your cybersecurity budget. Do you struggle to secure external grant funding? The NCSR assessment is included within certain federal grant program requirements. Looking to make a stronger case for your internal leadership team to allocate more existing resources



June 3-7 | [NABITA's 4th Annual Case Management Summit](#) - Sponsored by The National Association for Behavioral Intervention and Threat Management (NABITA). Join us at this year's Summit and acquire the skills and knowledge to implement case management services

effectively. Gain a comprehensive understanding of case management standards, best practices, and techniques to serve diverse populations. Take advantage of this opportunity to elevate your expertise in the field. You'll find a wealth of networking and collaboration opportunities. The Summit offers a platform to connect with like-minded professionals, exchange ideas, and share experiences that enrich your practice and broaden your professional network. Member Rate: \$399 and Non-Member Rate: \$499, 15% Discount for Bundle Pricing.



June 4-6 | [2024 FBI Behavioral Analysis Unit Symposium](#)

- This Symposium will be held at Yale University at the West Campus in Orange, CT. **ADMISSION IS FREE** for Law Enforcement, First Responders, and Crisis Intervention Teams. **REGISTRATION CLOSING MAY 6th!** Topics covered No Body

Homicide, Forensic Genealogy, Cognitive Interviewing, and Forensic Psychology. For more information, please contact FBI New Haven BAU Coordinator SSA Marc LaFrance, 203-503-5114; mrllafrance@fbi.gov. POST credit will be

to cybersecurity? The NCSR provides a simplified scoring system and concrete data summaries that any stakeholder can understand, even if they are not cyber experts. Join us to learn how even under-resourced teams can maximize their efforts by leveraging the NCSR's data and translating its recommendations into actionable strategies.

May 14 | [Changing the World One Word at a Time Read Aloud and Conversation with Author, Rajani LaRocca](#) - sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) - Join us at 4pm for our next National Read Aloud series. We'll be featuring **Rajani LaRocca, author of award winning books for young readers, including the Newbery Honor winning middle grade novel in verse, *Red, White, and Whole*. For more information, please email education@adl.org.**

National Read Aloud

Rajani LaRocca Is Our Next Read Aloud Author

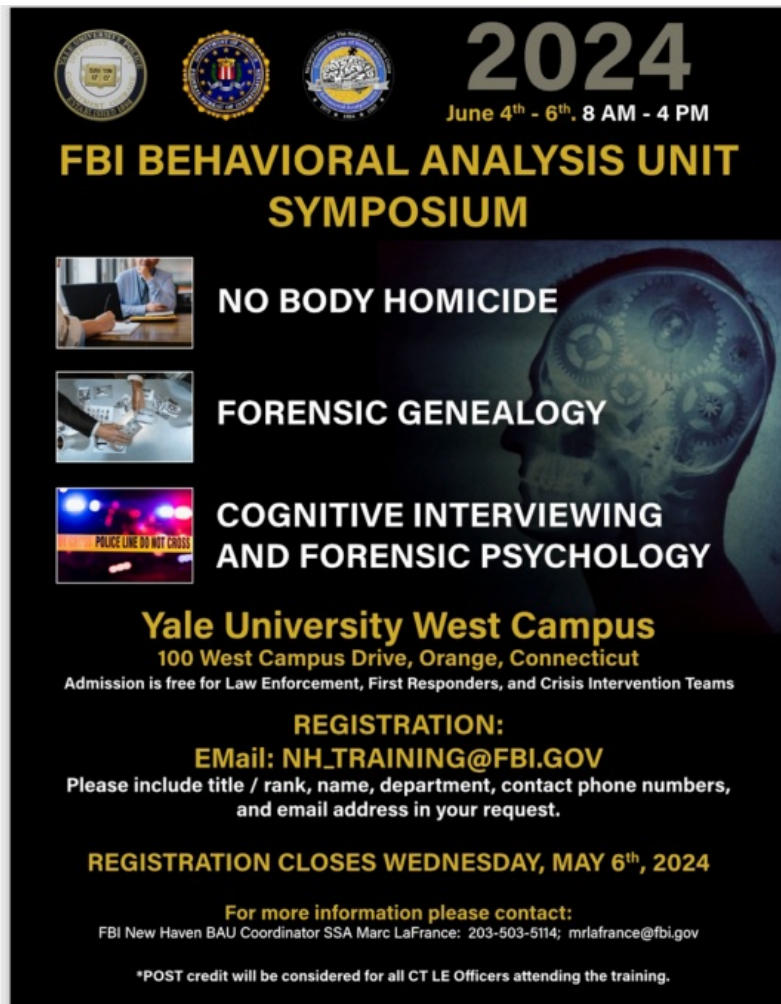
Join us Tuesday, May 14 at 4pm ET for our next "Changing the World One Word at a Time" National Read Aloud series. We'll be featuring Rajani LaRocca, author of award-winning books for young readers, including the Newbery Honor winning middle grade novel in verse, *Red, White, and Whole*. Q&A will follow the read aloud.

REGISTER






May 14 | [Regional School Safety Symposium](#) - This event will be from 8 am to 1 pm at the Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave., White Plains, NY. **Natalie Hammond**, will be the Speaker at this event and will be discussing "**Resiliency in the Face of Adversity**". Natalie taught third grade at Sandy Hook Elementary for thirteen years before becoming the Lead Teacher in the building. During a team meeting on December 14, 2012, she heard alarming sounds outside of the main office. She, along with the Principal and School Psychologist, confronted the unknown. Although wounded multiple times during the attack, Natalie survived her injuries. Since the tragedy, she works with groups around the country to discuss resiliency in the face of adversity, the importance of communication and collaboration when developing district, school and campus safety plans, and the necessity for social-emotional learning to be embedded into our daily practice as educators. For

303-511-1111, mmlafrance@fbi.gov. POST credit will be considered for all CT LE Officers attending the training. **REGISTER By Emailing: NH_Training@fbi.gov**, please include title / rank, name, department, contact phone numbers, and email address in your request.



2024
June 4th - 6th, 8 AM - 4 PM

FBI BEHAVIORAL ANALYSIS UNIT SYMPOSIUM

-  **NO BODY HOMICIDE**
-  **FORENSIC GENEALOGY**
-  **COGNITIVE INTERVIEWING AND FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY**

Yale University West Campus
100 West Campus Drive, Orange, Connecticut
Admission is free for Law Enforcement, First Responders, and Crisis Intervention Teams

REGISTRATION:
Email: NH_TRAINING@FBI.GOV
Please include title / rank, name, department, contact phone numbers, and email address in your request.

REGISTRATION CLOSES WEDNESDAY, MAY 6th, 2024

For more information please contact:
FBI New Haven BAU Coordinator SSA Marc LaFrance: 203-503-5114; mrlafrance@fbi.gov

*POST credit will be considered for all CT LE Officers attending the training.



June 5 & 6 | [The WAVR-21 in Europe Amsterdam - A Workplace & Campus Threat Assessment & Management Workshop](#) Hosted by: *Dr. Stephen White*

more information, please see [Flyer](#). Register through Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES by scanning the **QR Code** - see below or call 914-248-2457.

and Mr. Bram van der Meer. This first of-its-kind offering will provide a European-oriented WAVR-21 training, taking into account important cultural, legal, and risk scenario differences between North America and European countries. This training will take place in The Hague, Netherlands, with an option to attend either in person or virtually. Read [more](#) about the workshop content, especially valuable for security professionals working for USA organizations and assigned to European sites and regions. For more information and to register, email **Mr. Bram van der Meer**, at Vandermeer@dantespsychology.com



June 5, August 7, October 1 | [Preventing Mass Attacks in Our Communities](#) -

Hosted by: The U.S. Secret Service National Threat Assessment Center (NTAC). In this virtual training event, NTAC researchers will discuss

important findings from our research on mass attacks perpetrated in public and semi-public spaces, including businesses, restaurants, bars, retail outlets, houses of worship, schools, open spaces, and more. This training will provide guidance on how communities may develop or improve existing violence prevention programs utilizing a behavioral threat assessment model. **Intended Audience:** Law enforcement, corporate security, mental health professionals, faith-based community leaders, university faculty, threat assessment team members, and other community safety stakeholders.

June 24-26 | [Advanced SRO Course - New Britain, CT](#) -

Hosted by: The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) and Agency - The New Britain Police Department. This is a 3-day (24 hour) training designed to prepare school resources officers, other law enforcement officers, and school safety professionals to fulfill their roles in the school setting effectively. School administrators and education professionals would also benefit from this course. This training will take place at the New Britain Police Department, 10 Chestnut Street, New Britain, CT. Cost: \$400 per person for NASRO members / \$450 per person for non-NASRO members. For more information, please contact **Sgt. Chad Nelson** at chad.nelson@newbritainct.gov



July 29-August 2 | [2024 National School Safety Conference](#) - Conference Partners

include: The School Safety Advocacy Council, D.A.R.E. International, and The National Association of School and Campus Police Chiefs. The 20th Annual 2024 National

School Safety Conference featuring the 36th Annual D.A.R.E. International Training Conference is the largest and most comprehensive conference focused on all aspects of school safety and security. Centered on national best practices and proven methods and programs, this conference brings the most knowledgeable and internationally renowned keynote presenters into a single forum to provide the highest quality professional development possible in one conference. In addition to our unmatched keynote

REGIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY SYMPOSIUM
Safer Schools. Safer Communities. TOGETHER.
Resiliency in the Face of Adversity

Natalie Hammond taught third grade at Sandy Hook Elementary for thirteen years before becoming the Lead Teacher in the building. During a team meeting on December 14, 2012, she heard alarming sounds outside of the main office. She, along with the Principal and School Psychologist, confronted the unknown. Although wounded multiple times during the attack, Natalie survived her injuries. She now serves as Principal in a K-4 elementary school in Connecticut. Since the tragedy, she works with groups around the country to discuss resiliency in the face of adversity, the importance of communication and collaboration when developing district, school and campus safety plans, and the necessity for social-emotional learning to be embedded into our daily practice as educators.

Groups targeting minors, sextortion and victim services
Violent online groups and the use of Generative AI target and extort minors to self-harm and produce child sexual abuse material.

Pathways Forward
School Safety Stakeholders Panel Q & A

Tues. May 14, 2024
8am - 1pm
Breakfast/Lunch provided Visit the School Safety Support Partners and Products Vendor Area

WESTCHESTER COUNTY CENTER
198 Central Ave., White Plains, N.Y.

Please register through PNWBOCES
Scan QR code or call 914-248-2457
PNWBOCES
Putnam Northern Westchester
County and BOCES
Community Affairs

wcpdcommunityaffairs@westchestercountyny.gov

May 15 | [Sara Wilkinson: Gold Star Spouse & Mental Health Advocate Presentation](#) - sponsored by SERAC -

Sarah Wilkinson is a suicide loss survivor who is dedicated to using her voice and her story to change the narrative and the number of veteran suicides. Please join us from 1-2 via Zoom. For more questions or more information, contact **Mark D. Irons** at mirons@seracct.org.

presenters, you will be able to take advantage of a choice of two complimentary pre-conference sessions as well as almost 50 breakout sessions by current professional in the fields of education, law enforcement, and school safety.

Sara Wilkinson: Gold Star Spouse & Mental Health Advocate



Sara Wilknsn is a suicide loss survivor who is dedicated to using her voice and her story to change the narrative and the number of veteran suicides.

May 15th (Wednesday) 1-2 via Zoom

REGISTER NOW

<https://www.seracct.org/events/2024/May/#Calendar>



For questions or more information contact Mark D. Irons mironsm@seracct.org



CONFERENCE PARTNERS



2024 NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY CONFERENCE

FEATURING THE 36TH ANNUAL THE D.A.R.E. INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CONFERENCE

JULY 29 - AUGUST 2
DOUBLETREE SEAWORLD RESORT
ORLANDO, FLORIDA



[CLICK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION](#)

August 13-16 | [32nd Annual Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Threat Management Conference](#) - Hosted by: *The Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP)*. The Conference Program will be released in May. The Conference will be held at the Disneyland Resort Hotel in Anaheim, CT. Please click [Here](#) for more information. The Association of Threat Assessment Professionals and the LA Police Department Threat Management Unit are pleased to present the Thirty-Second Annual threat Management Conference, designed to address major issues surrounding mass shootings and other public attacks, workplace violence, school/campus violence, domestic violence, and other situations involving the prevention of targeted violence. A variety of nationally recognized speakers will give presentations on current information, research, and techniques relating to the industry. *Limited spots available.*

August 19-23 | [Basic SRO Course - New Britain, CT](#) - Hosted by: *The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) and Agency - The New Britain Police Department*. This is a forty hour (40) training designed to prepare school resources officers, other law enforcement officers, and school safety professionals to fulfill their roles in the school setting effectively. School administrators and education professionals would also benefit from this course. This training will take place at the New Britain Police Department, 10 Chestnut Street, New Britain, CT. Cost: \$500 per person for NASRO members / \$550 per person for non-NASRO members. For more information, contact **Sgt. Chad Nelson** at chad.nelson@newbritainct.gov



NEW - The Summer Series - Safer Schools Together

The Summer Series highlights the rapid advancements and challenges in the fields of mental health, social media, and artificial intelligence through eight new sessions. These fields all have significant implications for threat assessment/safety teams as they navigate the complexities of identifying and mitigating potential risks in their communities. **Receive 10% off your purchase when registering for all Summer Series sessions!**

REGISTER NOW

 <p><i>June 13, 2024</i> The Evolution and Impact of Artificial Intelligence</p>	 <p><i>June 25, 2024</i> Building Resilience: Mental Health Strategies for First Responders and Communities</p>	 <p><i>July 8 August 27, 2024</i> Threat Assessment and Special Education Considerations</p>	 <p><i>July 17, 2024</i> The Cyber Criminal: Tactics, Techniques, and Trends</p>
 <p><i>July 23, 2024</i> AI Image Generation and Sextortion Risks: Safeguarding Against Misinformation and Exploitation</p>	 <p><i>August 7, 2024</i> AI's Impact on Threat-Related Behavior: Assessing Online Threats</p>	 <p><i>August 14, 2024</i> Digital Age Gangs: Trends, Recruitment, Prevention, and Coded Language</p>	 <p><i>August 21, 2024</i> Emotional Armor Fit Check: How Staff Can Prepare Before, During and After Traumatic Events In Our School Communities</p>

Meet the CT Center for School Safety Interns

Mitigation

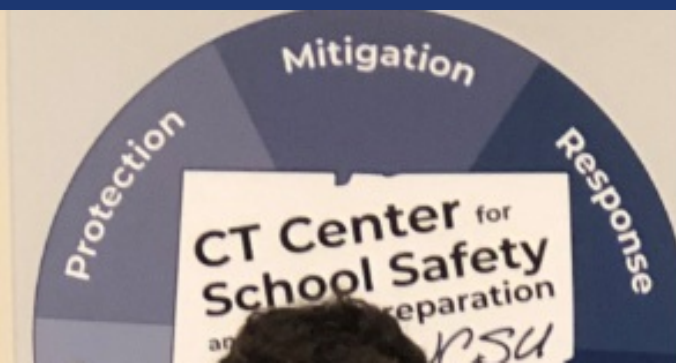
NICHOLAS WILLIAMS AMBROSIO

NICHOLAS WILLIAMS-AMBRUSIO

GRADUATE INTERN

Nick is a Homeland Security Graduate Student at WCSU. Nick has been helping with academic research, providing summaries, key points and recommendations in written reports and other projects since October 2022.

“I am a graduate student majoring in Homeland Security. My work experience at the CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation, with its emphasis on training, prevention, and preparedness, has greatly expanded my perspective on ways to protect schools across the US. The Center is focused on proactive steps to protect students from harm, and it is very gratifying to know I am contributing to that goal.”



ELI MANCINI

STUDENT INTERN



Eli is a Marketing student at WCSU. Eli has been helping the center with Marketing, Events, Training Announcements, Newsletters and social media platforms since September 2023.

“Working at the Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation for me means working towards making a real difference. Working here means working towards a safer future for K-12.”



GARTH BETTS

STUDENT INTERN

Garth is a Digital & Interactive Media Arts student at WCSU. Garth has been helping the center with the School Safety Newsletter, social media platforms and video projects since January 2024.

“The CT Center for School Safety has



The CT Center for School Safety has helped me enter a purposeful occupational field that helps people, while also allowing me to pay off my student loans. To me, the Center represents a selfless effort to protect K-12 communities, with the best resources and professionals in the state."



RAFA HASSAN

STUDENT INTERN

Rafa is a Cybersecurity student at WCSU. Rafa has been helping with the School Safety Newsletter, social media platforms and other projects since February 2024.

"The Center for School Safety has helped me venture out into a different field, I have been able to explore different issues regarding school safety. I am able to see, as well as be a part of what is happening behind the scenes, I believe that what we do here at the center is often overlooked.

...but is a crucial part of the school systems. The center has been an amazing opportunity, and it is a great outlet to ensure school safety as well as bring tons of awareness to many different causes."



CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation

On Friday April 12th, Suffield Public Schools completed a Parent Reunification Exercise with their school based teams. Out of district representation participated in the exercise from Bloomfield, Canton, and Enfield school districts. It was overseen by Dr. Kimberly Myers Regional School Safety Coordinator North Central Region. A big shout out to the Suffield Public Schools Security Team, Larry, Jeff, Chad, and Phil for their hard work and dedication to this planning process that took months to coordinate and complete. Job well done!

Group photo below (left to right): Matthew Dobi Assistant Principal of Suffield High School, Larry Plano Facilities/Security Director of Suffield Public Schools, Jeff Beiler Safety & Security Specialist, Dr. Amery Bernhardt Director of the CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation, Dr. Kimberly Myers Regional School Safety Coordinator North Central Region, Chad Rypysc Safety & Security Specialist, and Phil Mugford Safety & Security Specialist.





Contacts



Amery Bernhardt, D.M.

Director, CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation



Director, CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation
(203) 837-3210
Bernhardta@wcsu.edu



Mary Pupazzoni
Secretary, CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation
(203) 837-8915
Pupazzonim@wcsu.edu

Gabriel I. Lomas, Ph.D.

Founder and Faculty Sponsor, CT Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation
(203) 837-8512



Lomasg@wcsu.edu



Sadie Witherspoon, MS

Regional School Safety Coordinator for the South Central Region of CT, in Partnership with ACES.
(203) 733-9439
Witherspoons@wcsu.edu



Kim Myers, Ed.D.

Regional School Safety Coordinator for the North Central Capitol Region of CT, in Partnership with CREC.
(203) 456-5347
Myersk@wcsu.edu



Kiley Young, LCSW

Regional School Safety Coordinator for the Eastern Region of CT, in Partnership with LEARN and EASTCONN.
(203) 240-4867
Youngki@wcsu.edu



Tanya Iacono, DSW, LCSW

Regional School Safety Coordinator for the Western Region of CT, in Partnership with EdAdvance and CES.
(203) 456-5337
laconot@wcsu.edu



Paula Gill Lopez, Ph.D.

Founding Member, CT Center for School Safety & Crisis Preparation
Associate Professor & Program Director, Fairfield University
Executive Board, CT Association of School Psychology (CASP).
Pgilllopez@fairfield.edu

CONTRIBUTE to our NEWSLETTER

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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