



September 2021

E-UPDATE FROM CSSRC ~ You are receiving this email as a subscriber of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center's (CSSRC) listserv. E-Updates from the CSSRC will contain the most current information about the Center's activities and resources, as well as other school safety efforts throughout the state of Colorado and relevant national resources. **Please forward this to others on your email list who have an interest in supporting safe and positive schools in Colorado. They may register for this listserv on our website www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC.**

THE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Updates from the Colorado School Safety Resource Center:

- We are thrilled to announce that **Ron Lee, PsyD.** will join the team on September 1st at the Colorado School Safety Resource Center as the School Outreach Consultant. Dr. Lee most recently held positions in the Cherry Creek School District including head of psychological services. He also has experience as a clinical psychologist and has been a keynote presenter for the CSSRC in the past. Dr. Lee will focus on psychological safety and work closely with our Regional Training Consultants on those topics as well.



Welcome, Ron!

To reach Ron please use this email address starting September 1st: ron.lee@state.co.us

- As many of our **school mental health providers** know, for a number of years the Center has been facilitating a networking group for professionals covering either suicide prevention or threat assessment in their schools/districts. (For further information please see the first announcement below under *Current Events*).
Last year, Partners for Children's Mental Health (PCMH) and Mental Health Colorado (MHC) also held **Communities of Practice (CoP)** for school mental health professionals. We have since learned that School Based Health Specialists have a monthly networking meeting hosted by the Office of Behavioral Health (OBH).
We assume these CoPs are helpful but with so many, perhaps a bit confusing. To maximize efforts, staff from all four of these agencies have been meeting to decide what will be offered and when. We hope this cuts down on confusion but affords our school mental health professionals the support and resources they need.
The final decision appears that the CSSRC will continue to facilitate their open networking groups on suicide prevention and threat assessment monthly. The Office of Behavioral Health will continue to meet with School Based Health Professionals. Since this is part of their mandated work, these meetings are closed.
However, **an exciting new Community of Practice is in the works** for any and all school mental health professionals on a monthly basis. It will be supported by all four of the agencies mentioned above and facilitated by a well-known, experienced professional. Final details are being confirmed and then all four agencies will send out the information to their ListServes. So stay tuned, you won't be disappointed!

Kindest regards,
Chris Harms
christine.harms@state.co.us
303.912.6915

COLORADO SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER TRAINING

CSSRC Virtual Trainings are back!

- Virtual training on Mondays and Fridays resumed in August and will continue through September.
- In October the Center staff will reevaluate to see if there is enough interest to continue these virtual workshops throughout the school year.
- You can sign up for the workshops [here](#)!

REGISTRATION IS OPEN: 2021 Colorado Safe Schools Summit

- The annual Colorado Safe Schools Summit will be held **virtually** on **October 21 & 22, 2021**.
- This is co-sponsored by the CSSRC, [the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at CU, Boulder](#) and [Safe2Tell](#).
- There will be no charge and since it is virtual, everyone across the state can attend!
However, you still need to register to receive the link.
- Keynote speakers will be:
 - **Dr. David Schonfeld**, Executive Director of the National School Crisis & Bereavement Center who will speak on helping students with grief and loss.
 - **Kent MacLennan**, Executive Director of Rise Above Colorado who will speak on using social norms for substance abuse prevention.
- Twenty-four workshops have been chosen and can be seen on the agenda.
- The agenda is [here](#).
- Register to attend the event [here](#).

safe² tell
Colorado



Center for the Study and
Prevention of Violence
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

REGISTRATION IS OPEN - Suicide Prevention Symposium

- The annual Youth Suicide Prevention & Intervention Symposium will be held virtually on **Thursday, November 4, 2021**.
- This is co-sponsored by the CSSRC, the [Office of Suicide Prevention](#) and [CDE](#).
- Keynote speakers will be **Brandon Johnson** from [SAMHSA](#) who will address minority youth mental health issues and **John Ackerman** who is the Suicide Prevention Coordinator for the [Center for Suicide Prevention and Research at Nationwide Children's Hospital](#) who will discuss postvention in schools.
- The afternoon will be devoted to creating a suicide strategy in your district and the CSSRC Youth Suicide Assessment and Intervention Toolkit for mental health providers who want to be trained to use the new instruments.
- The day's agenda is [here](#).
- Register [here](#).

Still Recruiting - CSSRC STOP Grant: Threat Assessment Training & Implementation

- The CSSRC is recruiting more schools for threat assessment training and implementation.
- We need sites where CSSRC staff have NOT trained in threat assessment as well as a few where we have trained in the past.
- The lift for school sites is minimal – just training evaluations to complete along with the training and a brief collection of data every six months.
- If you believe you might be interested later in the process, please call to get your district/school on the list now.
- Staff can be paid stipends for the training and data collection under the grant if training is conducted outside of regular working hours.
- If your school is interested in being one of the 30 sites, below is more information.
 - [Application](#)
 - [Application Letter](#)
 - [MOU](#)
- Please complete the application and return it to Christine.harms@state.co.us or call Chris if you have

any questions. (303.912.6915). We are now scheduling for Fall and Winter.

SAVE THE DATES:

- **Student/Staff Safety Summit will be held virtually on Tuesday, December 7th.** We invite groups of middle and high school students with faculty members to attend. Last year's Summit was a huge success and we look forward to our youth council planning this one too. Watch for more information.
 - **We are excited to announce that Dorothy Espelage, PhD. will be the plenary speaker.**
 - **Dr. Espelage will discuss youth bullying and harassment and the link to domestic violence later in life.**
- **Cybersafety/Bullying and Substance Abuse Prevention Speakers' Series January 11th, 19th and 26th virtually.**
 - Alex Rodriques, PhD. - **Cyber Safety** on Tuesday, January 11th at 11:30 AM
 - Lynn Riemer, ACT on Drugs - **Substances in the Community**, Tuesday January 18th at 11:30 AM
 - Sameer Hinduja, PhD. - **Cyberbullying** on Tuesday, January 25th at 11:30 AM
The presentations will be live at 11:30 AM. However, we will record them for school professionals and parents to review when convenient.
- **Positive School Discipline Symposium will be held on Wednesday, February 16th.** We are working on making this a hybrid (in-person and virtual). More information will follow as presenters are confirmed.

CSSRC ONLINE COURSE OFFERINGS & ARCHIVED PRESENTATIONS

CSSRC online course links:

- [Link to CSSRC online course offerings](#)

CURRENT EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CSSRC's School Mental Health & School Safety Professionals' Groups

For the last few years, the CSSRC has facilitated informal meetings of school staff who oversee either suicide prevention and intervention or threat assessments in their buildings. We have been asked to set regular meetings for these professionals and separate them into two groups: **Suicide Prevention Professionals and Threat Assessment Professionals**. We will set these meetings for the second Tuesday of the month starting in September. The meetings will be virtual to allow more of our rural colleagues to join us. The calendar is below:

September 14, 2021 from 2:00 - 3:30	Suicide Prevention Professionals/Suicide Prevention Discussion
October 12, 2021 from 2:00 - 3:30	Threat Assessment Professionals/Threat Assessment Discussion
November 9, 2021 from 2:00 - 3:30	Suicide Prevention Professionals/Suicide Prevention Discussion
January 11, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:30	Threat Assessment Professionals/Threat Assessment Discussion
February 8, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:30	Suicide Prevention Professionals/Suicide Prevention Discussion
March 8, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:30	Threat Assessment Professionals/Threat Assessment Discussion
April 12, 2022 from 2:00 - 3:30	Suicide Prevention Professionals/Suicide Prevention Discussion

A calendar invite was sent for the Suicide meetings. If you did not receive an invite and you would like to attend, please send an email to Melissa.rubeo@state.co.us. We would be happy to add you to the list.

Invitations for the Threat Assessment meetings will go out later in September. Thank you!

Your Feedback is Requested

- The [Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment \(CDPHE\) Office of Suicide Prevention \(OSP\)](#) is seeking your assistance with creating a resource to support improved sleep for Colorado's young people as a suicide prevention strategy.
- If you would like to provide any feedback to Aimee Resnick about the content of these resources, please use [this form](#). They are so appreciative of your time and expertise. For any questions, please email Aimee at Aimee.Resnick@state.co.us.

NEW Research and Evaluation Project Director

- This job is with [the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence](#) and **CLOSES TODAY!**
- View the position and apply [here](#).

Youth Awareness Week

- The [Colorado Department of Human Services \(DHS\)](#) has shared that Youth Awareness Week is being held from **September 7 - 10, 2021**.
- "The purpose of Youth Awareness Week is to emphasize positive youth voices and to celebrate the influence youth have in our State and local communities."
- This year's theme is Inclusion and Acceptance. You can view more information on [this flyer](#).
- More information will be shared as Youth Awareness Week gets closer.

Academic Initiative: Students Invent2Prevent (I2P) Violence



- The [U.S. Department of Homeland Security](#) created this initiative "to empower young people to participate in civic engagement through the development of projects focused on preventing targeted violence in their schools and local communities."
- You can view the program [here](#).
- If you are interested in learning more, contact Jeanne Veraska, Education Project Specialist at jeanne@edventurepartners.com and/or Tony Sgro, CEO at tony@edventurepartners.com directly.

WEBINARS and OTHER ONLINE LEARNING COURSES for K-12 & IHE

NEW Back-to-School: Safety Resources for a Successful Year

- The [Federal School Safety Clearinghouse](#) shared that there is still an opportunity to register for this webinar.
- **When: August 31, 2021, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm**
- **What:** "This webinar is part of the 2021 School Safety Webinar Series, a program hosted by the Federal School Safety Clearinghouse to address emerging risks and threats facing the K-12 school community."
- View more information and register [here](#).

NEW Back to Class Virtual Town Hall

- [The National PTA](#) will be hosting a special "Back to Class" virtual town hall in partnership with the [CDC Foundation](#), moderated by NBC News correspondent and mom Kate Snow, and featuring U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona.
- **When: September 1, 2021, 11:00 am**
- The town hall will stream live on [National PTA's Facebook page](#).

NEW How to Develop a Competitive Grant Application

- The Office of Financial Resources at the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#)

([SAMHSA](#)) will be conducting a webinar on how to develop a competitive grant application.

- **When: September 30, 2021, 12:00 pm**
- **What:** “The webinar will address: The four registration processes that need to be completed; Preparing to apply for a grant; Key components of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO); Responding effectively to the evaluation criteria; Resources and technical assistance that are available.”
- View more information [here](#).

NEW Online Course: Addressing and Preventing Adult Sexual Misconduct in the School Setting

- The [Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center \(REMSTA\)](#) has shared their new online course.
- This online course is free and takes between 30 and 45 minutes to complete.
- View more information on the course and how to take it [here](#).

Still Available at No-Cost LivingWorks Start Program - One-hour gatekeeper training

- The [Office of Suicide Prevention](#) of [CDPHE](#) is pleased to provide our partners across Colorado FREE access to the LivingWorks Start **suicide prevention gatekeeper training**. LivingWorks Start is a one-hour, online, interactive training program that gives you the skills and knowledge to keep family, friends, co-workers, and others safe from suicide. For more information, click [here](#).
- To access the training, click [here](#) and enter access code: OSP Gen. Please note that we have a limited number of licenses available for use available on a first come, first served basis. Please do not share the URL and access code outside of Colorado.
- LivingWorks Start works best with Google Chrome, Firefox, or Microsoft Edge browsers.
- It is not Internet Explorer compatible. If you have any questions or issues accessing the training, please contact Dymond Ruybal at Dymond.Ruybal@state.co.us.



OTHER COLORADO TRAININGS and EVENTS

NEW Walk to School Day

- The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is sharing materials for the upcoming Walk to School Day.
- **When: October 6, 2021**
- **What:** “Walk and Bike to School Days are great opportunities to galvanize visibility for walking and bicycling to and from school. They are wonderful times to get kids out practicing their skills and safety rules and for parents and caregivers to experience how safe and fun it is for their child(ren) to walk and bike to and from school.”
- View more information and obtain promotional materials including free stickers and yard signs [here](#).

2021 CSSP Annual Fall Conference

- The [Colorado Society of School Psychologists \(CSSP\)](#) is holding their annual fall conference in Vail for 2021.
- **When: November 11 - 13, 2021.**
- **What:** “This year’s conference theme was inspired by how much change has occurred (and is still occurring) in our lives and in our profession over the past year and a half.”
- View more information [here](#). Registration will open later in the year.



NATIONAL TRAININGS and EVENTS

Teen CERT

- The [Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center](#) shared the availability to join the Teen Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program.
- "During the training, you will learn to: put out small fires, conduct light search and rescue, assist those who are injured, set up medical treatment areas, assist emergency responders, identify and anticipate hazards, reduce fire hazards in the home and workplace, and help reduce survivor stress."
- View more information [here](#).

CURRENT GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

NEW Free "School Access For Emergency Response" (SAFER) Grant Application Assistance

- School Safety Network (schoolsafety.net) has released a new report, "**Federal Support for School Safety and Security**," published by the Congressional Research Service. The report is distributed for a Legislative Learning Lab entitled, "2022 Whole Community School Safety Law," hosted on **September 29, 2021**, by the Council of State Governments West for its Annual Meeting in Colorado Springs.
- The Lab will provide Western State legislators an exclusive inside look at Colorado's "School Access For Emergency Response" (SAFER) Grant Program. SAFER provides funding to schools for hardware, software, maintenance, and training for advanced emergency radio communications. Experts from the Colorado Department of Public Safety, the Partner Alliance for Safer Schools (PASS), and SCHOOLSAFE will show how new technology is used to provide seamless interoperable communication among traditional and non-traditional responders to rapidly resolve school emergencies.
- With mounting concern over the years, community partners and school early adopters have testified in Committee that communications interoperability is an essential tool for dealing with the widest range of safety situations. All the Colorado school safety bills addressing this need achieved overwhelming bipartisan support, and were among the most widely-supported public safety measures in the history of the State.
- This Legislative Learning Lab will show how continual use of online tools such as the free Whole Community 911 and RAND Corporation "Getting to Outcomes" programs can verify and validate SAFER as a sustainable legislative solution for multi-hazard emergency response in schools everywhere.
- Colorado school districts or charter schools interested in applying for a SAFER Grant are invited to contact **John Simmons at School Safety Network** (john@schoolsafety.net) for free day passes to the Legislative Learning Lab or for free assistance in submitting SAFER Grant applications.

NEW Air Quality Improvement Grant Opportunity

- The [Colorado Department of Education \(CDE\)](#) is sharing an opportunity "to award grants for acquisition, repair, maintenance or upgrading of portable high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) fans or filtration systems for classrooms made on or after April 1, 2021."
- **Application deadline is September 10, 2021.**
- View more information and apply [here](#).

Nourish Colorado Grants Available

- [Nourish Colorado](#) formerly LiveWell Colorado has changed quite a bit and we encourage you to view the new program and information [here](#).



RESOURCES and INFORMATION for Pre K-12 SCHOOLS

NEW Updated CSSRC Resource Guides

- The [Colorado School Safety Resource Center \(CSSRC\)](#) has previously compiled five different resource guides for your use and updates them annually.
- This year we have added a new one on [Social Emotional Learning \(SEL\)](#).
- Please see the links to each guide below:
 - [Essentials of Threat Assessment](#)
 - [Child Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention](#)
 - [Positive School Climate: Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education](#)
 - [Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention](#)
 - [Restorative Practices](#)

NEW Stand Up Colorado and the Department of Public Safety release Best Practice Guidelines for Working with Youth Who Engage in Relationship Abuse

- Intervention in and prevention of intimate partner violence in youth is critical at the early stages of adolescent development. There is no mandate for someone to be approved through the [Colorado Domestic Violence Offender Management Board](#) to work with youth who commit abusive, harmful, and/or illegal acts toward a dating partner. Until last month, there were no guidelines for the treatment of this population.
- The work of generating [Best Practice Guidelines for Working with Youth Who Engage in Relationship Abuse](#) was initiated by [Stand Up Colorado](#), a project of [Violence Free Colorado](#), in partnership with the [Colorado Department of Public Safety](#), including the [Colorado Domestic Violence Offender and Sex Offender Management Boards](#). The Guidelines were developed by a multidisciplinary group of committed professionals from various state agencies, including the School Safety Resource Center, who recognized the gap in services for treatment of youth who use abusive, harmful, and/or illegal behaviors in the context of relationships.
- The Guidelines are designed to offer best practices and recommendations to Providers offering evaluation and treatment services to youth who engage in relationship abuse. They include guidance for schools who encounter such youth. The goal of the Guidelines is to create capacity and resources for these youth to receive services at any point in time by a statewide network of qualified evaluation and treatment service Providers. With the support of these Guidelines, additional professionals will be able and willing to do the important work of providing treatment to these youth, thereby increasing the availability of services to this population and decreasing the occurrence of youth relationship violence.

NEW CDC Back to School Guide



- The [CDC](#) has released updated guidance for COVID-19 prevention in K–12 Schools to align with the CDC's existing guidance for fully vaccinated people and to assist K–12 schools in opening for in-person instruction and remaining open.
- View the information [here](#).

NEW Toolkit and Resources for 2021 School Guidance

- [SchoolSafety.gov](#) recognizes that the new school year could bring new and even unprecedented safety challenges.
- This one-pager provides information on the range of school safety elements and topics – from school climate and mental health to physical security and threat assessment and reporting systems – that play a role in creating safe school communities. Integrating these various components and elements helps K-12 school communities better address the range of threats and hazards they may face, while

maintaining a safe and supportive learning environment for students to thrive and grow.

- View the document [here](#).

National Minority Mental Health Awareness Month Resource Highlight

- The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#) collaborated with [HHS Office of Minority Health \(OMH\)](#) to develop the Behavioral Health Implementation Guide for the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (Behavioral Health Guide).
- “This Behavioral Health Guide underscores the ways in which the National CLAS Standards can improve access to behavioral health care, promote quality behavioral health programs and practice, and ultimately reduce persistent disparities in mental health and substance use treatment for underserved minority communities.”
- View the guide [here](#).



RESOURCES and INFORMATION for INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

NEW Extreme Heat Safety Preparedness

- The [Ready Campaign](#), the [Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools Technical Assistance Center \(REMSTA\)](#), and the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) have made new resources available on how to prepare for extreme heat which Ready defines as “a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees for at least two to three days.”
- “School and IHE planning teams can help prepare for extreme heat by creating, revising, and continually enhancing an Extreme Heat Annex in their emergency operations plans (EOPs). Keep the following in mind as you consider the Extreme Heat Annex while reviewing the six-step planning process:
 - **Forming a Team:** Are athletic directors, sports coaches, and/or athletic trainers members of your team? Have you invited community partners, such as local health department officials and local public health officials, to join your team and engage in planning for extreme heat and other emergency events?
 - **Conducting a Site Assessment:** Have there been proper management and maintenance on facility air and cooling systems? Are there additional cooling equipment and fans if needed? Are there enough hydration stations to serve the facility’s population? Are hydration stations set up strategically in locations with a higher need to promote proper hydration (entrances of the building, heavily traveled hallways, gym, and sports facilities)?
 - **Conducting a Capacity Assessment:** Does your education agency collect information on who has been trained on preventing, identifying, and treating individuals with heat-related illnesses? Does your school or IHE inventory medical equipment and supplies that can support heat-related illness treatment?
 - **Developing an Annex:** It may be necessary to limit both outdoor and physical activities in the case of extreme heat in the summer months, especially between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. (the hottest part of the day). Do you have a plan in place for relocating your outdoor school activities/events if necessary? Do you have time limits/modifications for events that may be affected by the heat?
 - **Hosting a Training:** Do members of your school/campus community understand the difference between heat cramps, heat exhaustion, and heat stroke? Are they equipped with the knowledge and training to both recognize and respond to the warning signs of heat-related illness? Has your school/campus community been trained on the Extreme Heat Annex?”
- Resource Pages are:

- [Ready Campaign](#)
- [CDC](#) resources and [Virtual Training](#)
- [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#)

Follow the Colorado School Safety Resource Center on Twitter

- For the latest school safety information between monthly E-Updates, follow [@CoSSRC](#) on Twitter.
- Featuring daily updates on new research, resources, upcoming trainings, and Center activities.



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

THE CSSRC IS AVAILABLE to any pre-K through higher education school to assist in your school safety planning. Our mission is to provide **no-cost consultation, resources, training and technical assistance** that can help you create a safe, positive, and successful school. We can customize a variety of trainings for your school safety and crisis planning teams or your school staff as you plan and train this school year. We invite you to continue monitoring our website (www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC) for the latest school safety information and upcoming trainings. **Call us at: 303-239-4435.**



COLORADO
School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety

Thank you for supporting safe and positive schools in Colorado!

Colorado School Safety Resource Center

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Supporting Safe and Positive Colorado Schools