



# Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk: Essential Skills for Clinicians

Setting  
**Mental Healthcare Providers**

Type of Program  
**Education and Training**

NSSP Goals Addressed  
**6.0**

## Program Description

*Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk: Essential Skills for Clinicians* (RRSR - MH) is an advanced two-day interactive training for mental health clinicians who want to acquire competency-based skills for working with clients at risk for suicide. RRSR training is based on a set of 24 core clinical competencies, developed by a task force of clinical experts collaborating with the American Association of Suicidology (AAS) and the Suicide Prevention Resource Center. These competencies comprehensively define the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to effectively assess, manage, and treat individuals at risk for suicide. The goal of the training is for clinicians to become more confident, competent, and prepared to meet the needs of distressed clients and their families.

Features of RRSR training include:

- Two-day face-to-face workshop;
- Online post-workshop mentoring;
- Participant manuals with resource materials;
- Continuing education credits;
- Web-based assessment;
- Highly qualified trainers.

## Program Objectives

After training, participants should be able to:

1. Competently conduct a suicide risk assessment.
2. Formulate level of risk for suicide.
3. Develop a treatment and services plan to address suicide risk.

## Implementation Essentials

- Training must be conducted by an authorized RRSR trainer.

## Contact Information

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## Costs

The base RRSR training fee is approximately \$4,600 plus trainer travel and lodging. There is an additional \$65 fee for each participant to cover program materials, online assessment, and postage. Up to 40 participants can be trained at once. Training for trainers is available and may represent a sizable cost savings if multiple trainings are desired. Contact AAS for additional information.

\*The content of practices listed in Section III (Adherence to Standards) of the SPRC/AFSP Best Practices Registry address specific goals of the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* and have been reviewed by a panel of three suicide prevention experts and found to meet standards of accuracy, safety, and programmatic guidelines. Practices were not reviewed for evidence of effectiveness. Additional information about the Best Practices Registry can be found at [www.sprc.org](http://www.sprc.org).

The Best Practices Registry is supported by a grant (1 U79 SM57392-05) from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). No official endorsement by SAMHSA or DHHS for the information in this document is intended or should be inferred.