

In Harm's Way: Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention

Date: 2012 (For resources, this is the publication date. For programs, this is the date posted.)



Information

Type: Program/Practice, Education/Training Program

Organization: Center for Public Safety Innovation, St. Petersburg College

Costs:

There is no cost for training and program materials. For additional information, contact Todd Kirchgraber (Kirchgraber.todd@spcollege.edu [1]).

Contact

Todd Kirchgraber Training Director

Center for Public Safety Innovation

St. Petersburg College

3200 34th Street South

Saint Petersburg, FL 33711

Voice: 727-344-8030

Fax: 800-346-4412

Email: kirchgraber.todd@spcollege.edu [2]

Website: <http://policesuicide.spcollege.edu> [3]

In Harm's Way: Law Enforcement Suicide Prevention is an eight-hour train-the-trainers program that provides a comprehensive, holistic approach to stress management and suicide prevention for law enforcement and corrections professionals in order to reduce suicide risk. Those who complete the program return to their departments to train administrators, officers, and staff on suicide prevention, including: warning signs of



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depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and suicide; how to reduce stigma associated with seeking help; and how to develop department policies, protocols, and procedures to address officers at risk. Additional training is provided on the role of employee assistance professionals (EAPs), peer support, chaplaincy, psychological services, postvention activities, family support, and needs of survivors of suicide.

In Harm's Way was designed with input from many local, state, and federal law enforcement officers, deputies, and troopers, as well as subject matter experts, in order to develop suicide prevention training appropriate for law enforcement agencies of all sizes. *In Harm's Way* has been adapted for corrections officers.

Program Objectives

Those who participate in the *In Harm's Way* training will be able to:

1. Understand the stress, pressures, and culture in law enforcement that can lead to suicidal ideation.
2. Identify behaviors and statements that may indicate suicide risk.
3. Understand how to train law enforcement in suicide prevention.
4. Stress the importance of establishing department policy, protocol, and procedures.
5. Share this information within their departments.

Implementation Essentials

- Departments should establish linkages to helping resources before implementing the *In Harm's Way* program.

2012 NSSP Objectives Addressed:

Objective 7.1: Provide training on suicide prevention to community groups that have a role in the prevention of suicide and related behaviors.

Populations: People in Particular Occupations

Settings: Law Enforcement

Strategies: Identify and Assist

Links within this resource

[1] <mailto:Kirchgraber.todd@spcollege.edu>

[2] <mailto:kirchgraber.todd@spcollege.edu>

[3] <http://policesuicide.spcollege.edu>

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