

**Maine Suicide Prevention Program**  
**Suicide Prevention and Management Learning**  
**Collaborative for School Districts**

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A targeted Learning Opportunity for your District

A Training and Technical Assistance program offering through the Maine Suicide Prevention Program and NAMI Maine.

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### Overview

Suicide is the 9th leading cause of death in Maine and the rates of suicide attempts and death by suicide have been rising among school age youth. Schools are challenged to be effective at identifying youth at potential risk and to be proactive in how they assess risk and manage the ongoing needs of identified students.

The Maine Suicide Prevention program 2020-21 Suicide Prevention Learning Collaborative is an opportunity for the clinical support staff in a school district to meet together several times in a guided process addressing how they work collectively to prevent suicide. This will cover aspects of suicide prevention, assessment of risk and intervention, management of ongoing needs, and postvention support after a loss or significant attempt. The intent is to:

- Ensure that school/district protocols reflect the clinical and administrative practices.
  - Work administratively and clinically to adopt use of standardized tools and processes for assessment of risk and ongoing management of needs, including the use of collaborative safety planning to your school community.
  - Adopt and use tools for documenting and tracking actions taken with students at risk,
  - Ensure availability of resources for students, school staff and the parent community.
  - Ensure district or school's suicide management protocols are up to date and reflect best practices.
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### Who should be involved?

Each district learning collaborative would include input and participation from:

- School clinicians tasked with suicide risk intervention, including:
    - School Counselors
    - Guidance Counselors
    - School Social Workers
    - School Nurses
    - School Psychologists
  - School or District administrators regarding protocols and risk management
  - School Resource Officer as indicated
  - Inclusion of Special Ed. and Alternative Ed. staff as indicated
  - Others, as indicated in your district.
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**Maine Suicide Prevention Program**  
[mspp@namimaine.org](mailto:mspp@namimaine.org)  
800-464-5767, ext. 2318  
[www.namimaine.org/suicideprevention](http://www.namimaine.org/suicideprevention)

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Process:

The Learning Collaborative would involve 2-3 meetings of 1-2 duration to cover the goals stated above with review of protocols and materials to occur between sessions.

1. Initial session to present the model and to review the current practices in the district
2. Presentation and adaptation of model forms, tools and processes for use in the district
3. Case presentation and role-playing use of the model forms in a collaborative process.

The sessions can be arranged to be virtual or in-person depending on COVID precaution needs. NAMI Maine staff will be available throughout the process and after to offer input and technical assistance as a school district adapts the model forms and process to fit the needs of their community. We will provide the district with model forms and resources that can be adapted to you needs.

For more information or to arrange for a learning collaborative to happen in your district, contact the Suicide Prevention Training Coordinator at NAMI Maine, Gretchen Swain, 207-622-5767 ext. 2318 or [MSPP@namimaine.org](mailto:MSPP@namimaine.org). There is no cost to the district for this program.



**nami** **Maine**  
National Alliance on Mental Illness

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