

Social Services

Suicide Postvention Training



Training Professionals & Communities in
Suicide Prevention & Response®

Social service agencies perform a wide range of roles and functions in supporting clients and responding to community members following a suicide death. Since knowing someone who has died by suicide is one of the highest risk factors for suicide, taking steps to reduce risk and promote healing (postvention) becomes an integral part of suicide prevention efforts.

Postvention training is a proactive planning tool to promote healing and reduce risk in the event of a suicide. Using National Best Practice protocols, participants will learn how to reduce the risk of contagion and create a comprehensive response plan in the event of a suicide. The training includes interactive case scenarios, discussion, exercises, PowerPoint and printed materials.

Ideally, postvention training is provided in advance to prepare agency staff to respond to a suicide of a client or community member and to enable organizations to incorporate postvention protocols into agency crisis response plans. Training and/or technical assistance can also be provided following a suicide death.

Suicide Postvention training highlights:

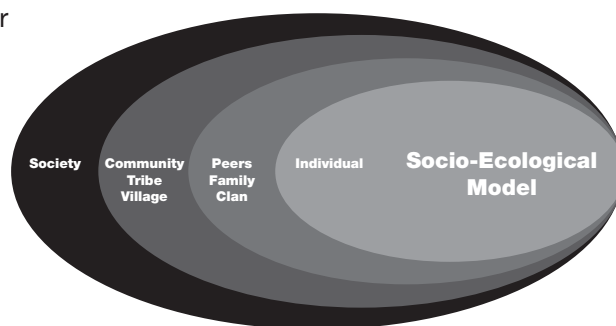
- National Best Practices for social service agencies in responding to a suicide death
- Identification of the role of key service providers and ways to participate in and/or coordinate an effective community response to the suicide death of a client or community member
- The dynamics of suicide related phenomena (contagion, pacts, clusters, copycat suicides)
- Strategies for reducing this risk in the agency caseload and the greater community
- Recognizing warning signs for suicide in clients or other community members after a suicide death
- The complexity of suicide-related grief and cultural considerations regarding suicide
- Strategies for encouraging help-seeking, reducing stigma, and promoting healing for survivors and communities
- Recommendations regarding confidentiality, safe communication, and handling media inquiries
- Discussion of agency protocols and legal/ethical issues should a client die by suicide, including emergency response if the death occurs on agency property and involvement with survivors
- Providing appropriate support to first responders and agency staff following a client suicide

Length: 6 hours or tailored for specific audiences

Audience: Staff and supervisors in health and social service agencies who are involved in developing crisis protocols and/or responding to a suicide death that impacts the community.

Location: your community

For more information contact The Connect Program
603-225-5359 info@theconnectprogram.org



Using a holistic, socio-ecological model, Connect examines suicide in the context of the individual, family, community, and society.



Connect® is a designated National Best Practice Program developed by NAMI NH