

Tools to Supplement Suicide Prevention Identification & Response Policies

This resource provides example flowcharts and process graphics designed to help organizations operationalize their suicide prevention identification and response policies. The visuals offer clear, step-by-step illustrations of recommended actions, roles, and communication pathways when a youth may be at risk for suicide. These examples are intended to support staff training, reinforce established protocols, and make response procedures easier to understand and implement in real-world situations. A list of additional resources is also provided at the end of this document.

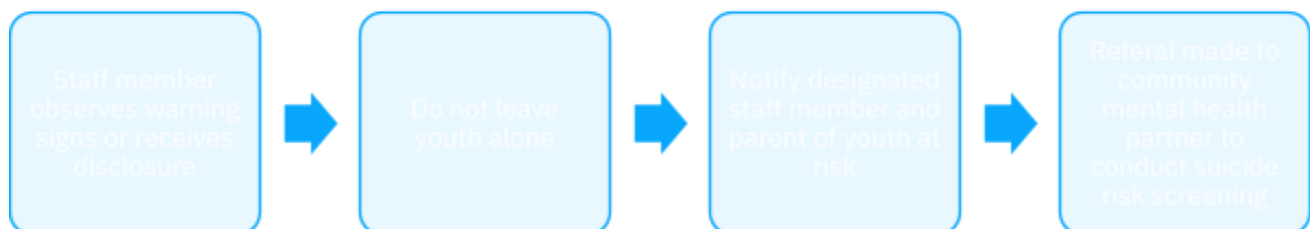
Youth serving organizations are invited to copy and adapt the flow charts and graphics provided below to fit their organizational needs and environments and are also encouraged to incorporate useful flow charts and graphics into their own protocols.

Example Flowcharts and Process Graphics

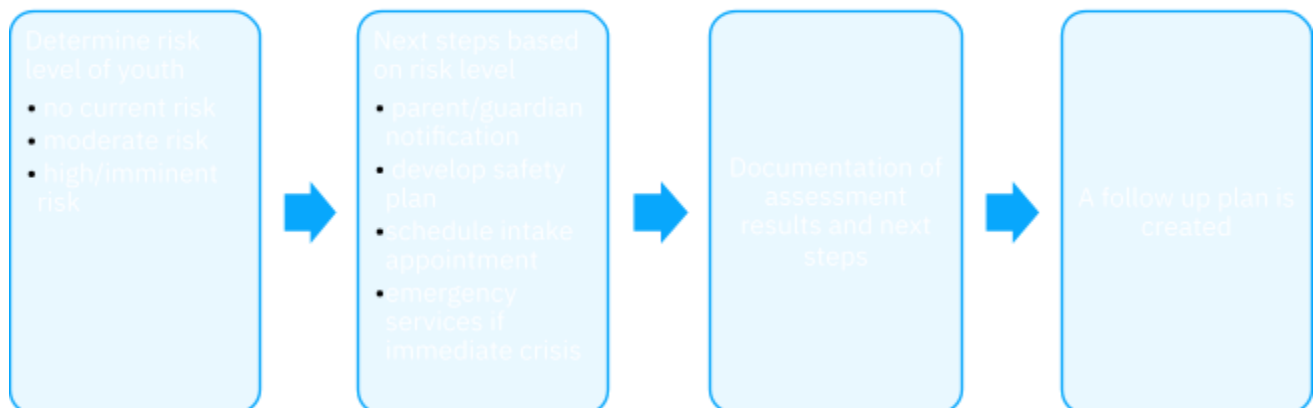
Example 1: Process for Youth Identified at Risk

Purpose: Provide a step-by-step guidance process for what staff should do if they notice warning signs and how community partners will determine risk level.

Staff Role:

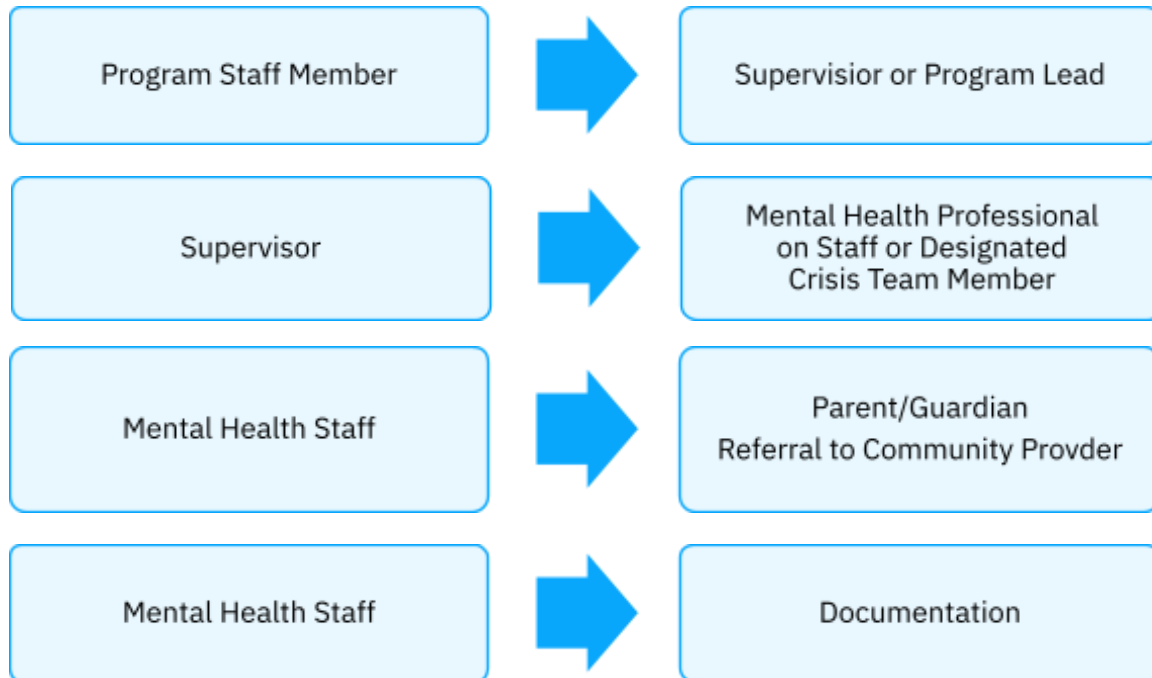


Licensed Clinical Organizational Mental Health Provider or Community Partner Role:



Example 2: Staff Reporting Pathway Flowchart

Purpose: Clarifies who staff should notify about a youth identified at risk based on their role and how information moves through the organization.



Example 3: Suicide Risk Level Decision Tree

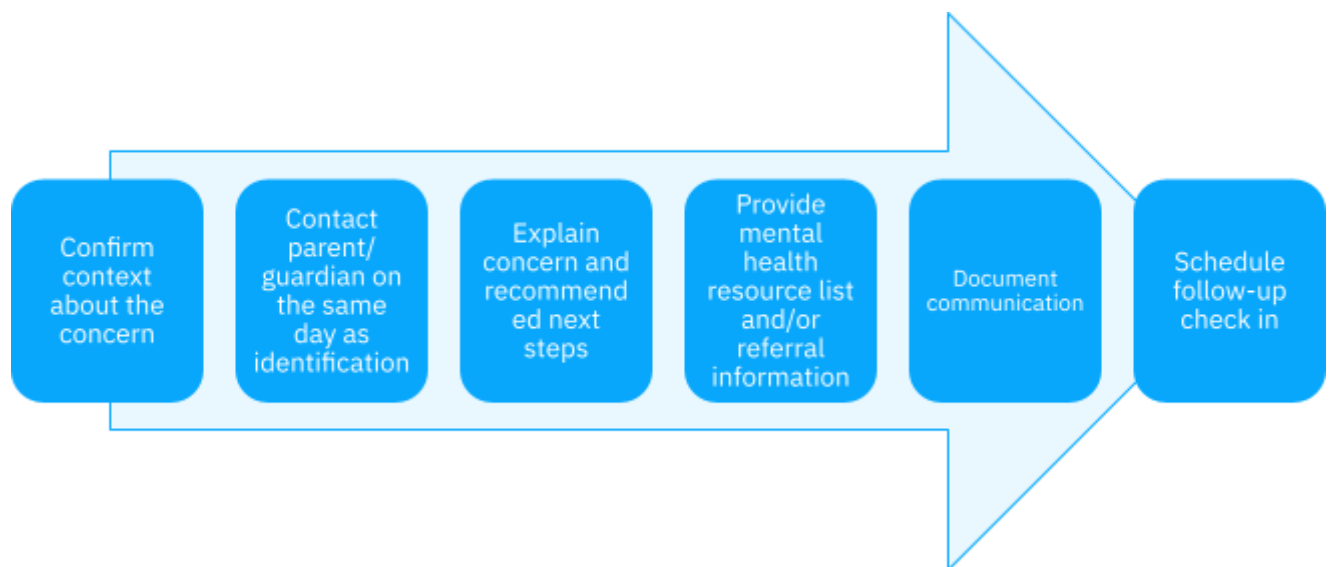
Purpose: Help staff determine the appropriate response depending on risk severity of a youth.

Risk Level	Indicators	Response
Low	Distress but no suicidal ideation	Provide support and monitor; notify parents
Moderate	Suicidal ideation without a plan	Parent contact and referral to community mental health provider
High	Has a plan or recent attempt	Monitor for safety/do not leave youth alone. Warm handoff for suicide risk assessment by

		licensed mental health staff or community mental health professional
Imminent	Active threat or attempt in progress	Call emergency services or mobile crisis

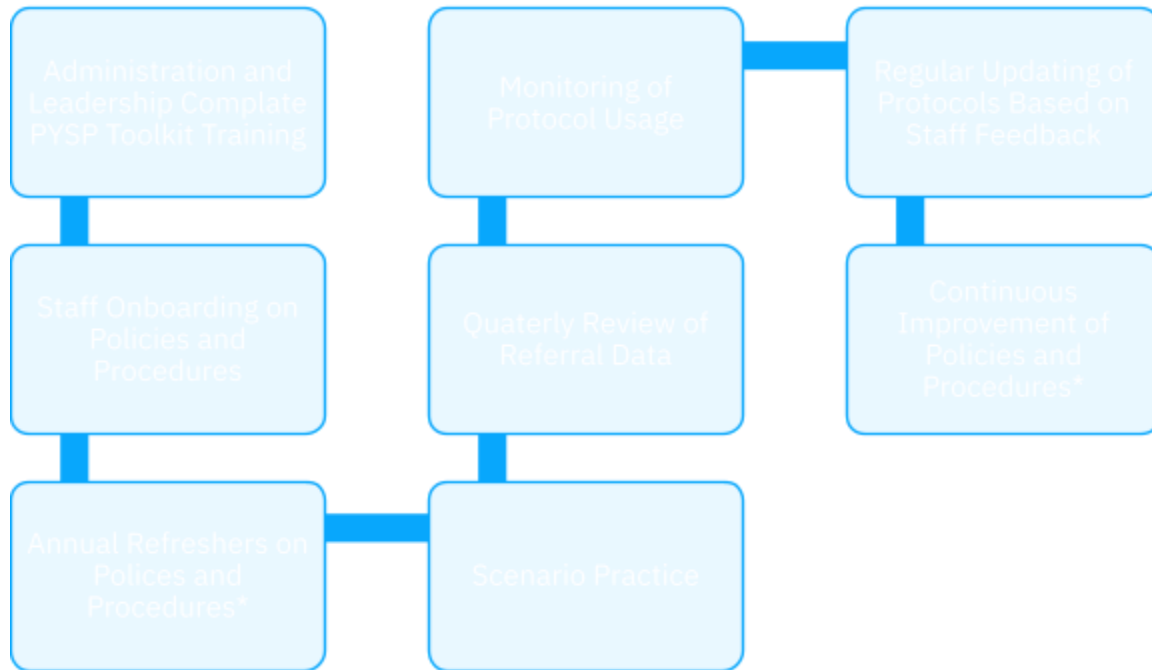
Example 4: Parent/Guardian Notification Process Graphic

Purpose: Shows a clear sequence for communicating with families.



Example 5: Staff Training Implementation Process Graphic

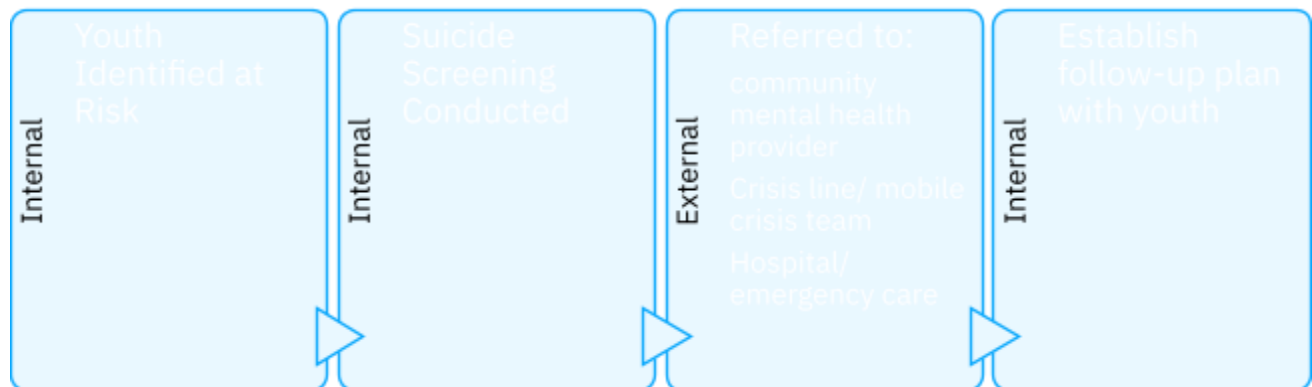
Purpose: Shows staff how your organization sustains training on your organizational suicide identification and response policies and procedures.



*Note: Improvements made to policies and procedures should be reflected in future training.

Example 6: Referral Pathway Graphic

Purpose: Clearly illustrates how youth move between services once risk is identified.



Example 7: Community Mental Health Contact Sheets

Purpose: provide an accessible resource for staff of contact information for relevant local community mental health resources.

Organization	Services	Phone #	Referral Process
Community Mental Health Center	Crisis services, individual therapy, social skills groups	###-###-## ##	Call intake line
Mobile Crisis Team	Dispatch on-site crisis response	###-###-## ##	Available 24/7 via calling number or online contact form
Hospital Emergency Department	Psychiatric evaluation, immediate medical services	###-###-## ##	Walk-in
Other resources identified by your organization			

Additional Tools and Resources

HEARD Alliance – Youth Mental Health & Suicide Prevention Resources

<https://www.heardalliance.org/schools>

Their K-12 Mental Health Promotion & Suicide Prevention Toolkit includes guidance, sample risk charts, assessment forms, and templates that can be adapted for your organization.

ESD 112 Regional School Safety Center – Suicide Prevention Protocol Flowchart

<https://www.esd112.org/wp-content/uploads/Suicide-Prevention-Protocol-Flowchart.pdf>

An example school response flowchart with screening and referral steps that can be adapted for your organization.

Kansas Department of Education – Suicide Awareness and Prevention

<https://www.ksde.gov/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Student-Staff-Training/Prevention-and-Responsive-Culture/Suicide-Awareness-and-Prevention/Kansas-Suicide-Prevention-Response-and-Postvention-Toolkit>

This webpage contains the full *Kansas Suicide Prevention, Intervention, Reintegration, and Postvention Toolkit* that can be adapted for your organization and links to the individual appendices of the toolkit, including templates, prevention and postvention response checklists, sample support plans, and language for notifying youth, staff, and families about a youth suicide death.

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline – Print Materials

<https://orders.gpo.gov/SAMHSA988/Pubs.aspx>

<https://988indiana.org/resource-toolkit/>

Your organization can order free print materials of 988 resources, including wallet cards, magnets, posters, notepads, and notecards. These resources can be given to staff to keep on their person and posted in areas frequently used by staff and youth.