

CONNECTICUT'S REGIONAL SUICIDE ADVISORY BOARDS

The RSABs are led by the Regional Behavioral Health Action Organizations (RBHAOs) who serve as strategic community partners responsible for a range of planning, education, and advocacy of behavioral health needs and services across the lifespan.

HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

Originating in July 2021, the RBHAOs coordinate the Regional Suicide Advisory Boards (RSABs) that provide the local infrastructure for building capacity and promoting suicide prevention activities. This work supports the vision of the CTSAB as outlined in the State Plan 2025.

SUICIDE AWARENESS

Provide resources & training to communities on warning signs, best practices, and safe messaging. Expand awareness of suicide prevention campaigns including '1 Word, 1 Voice, 1 Life', 988, and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.



Available trainings include: Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR), Signs of Suicide (SOS), CONNECT Postvention, Mental Health First Aid, ASIST, SBIRT, Talk Saves Lives, L.E.T.S. Save Lives, Gizmo, and CALM.

INNOVATIVE COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Association of People Supporting Employment hosted its first QPR Suicide Prevention Training at the CT statewide conference.



Clifford Beers' Community



Clifford Beers Community Care Center
A Clifford Beers Community Health Partner

Support Team conducts community canvasses and distributes crisis support resources to New Haven County residents impacted by suicides and homicides.

POSTVENTION

Suicide Loss Response

RSABs promptly respond and provide appropriate resources to impacted communities after untimely youth deaths.

In response to an identified need for more loss support resources, RSAB leads were trained to facilitate NAMI NH's *CONNECT Postvention* training to better educate their communities on coordinated and comprehensive responses after a sudden loss.

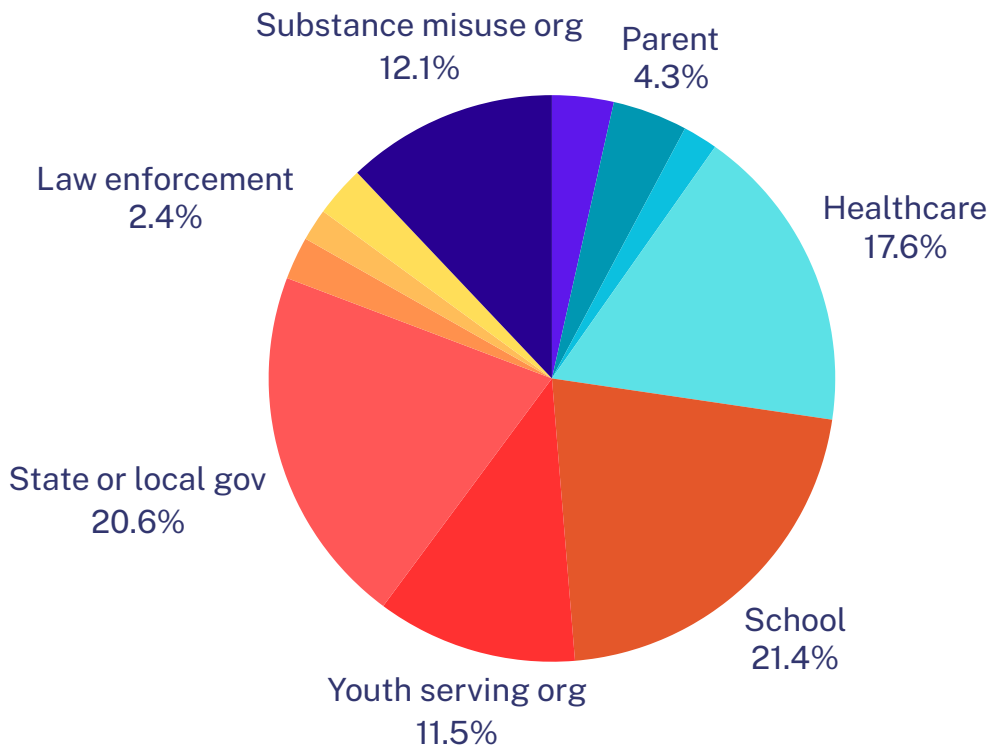
(June 2024)



Training Professionals & Communities in Suicide Prevention & Response®

SECTOR REPRESENTATION

RSABs seek to expand member representation; everyone brings different experiences & perspectives to the table.



TRAINING REACH

3,995

People trained statewide in suicide prevention & mental health promotion programs (2024)

"There is always more to learn... We always want to "do no harm" so it's great to let everyone know that to ASK about suicidal ideation is less harmful than keeping silent."
- QPR training participant

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Identify funding to support 988 while continuing to provide consistent dollars to address and prevent the issues of mental health, stigma, and suicide at \$100,000 per RBHAO.
- Implement innovative strategies to grow and sustain a pipeline of suicide prevention professionals to meet future state needs.
- Create opportunities for people with lived experience, treatment providers, and family/community members to integrate localized networks of care.

CONNECT WITH YOUR RSAB



ckoripsky@catalystct.org
Region 1 - Southern CT



tgainey@bhcare.org
Region 2 - Southcentral



damaral@seracct.org
Region 3 - Eastern



nbengtson@amplifyct.org
Region 4 - North Central



amaldonado@wctcoalition.org
Region 5 - Western

www.preventsuicidect.org

