



# Project AWARE Ohio



## Suicide Prevention Week

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among youth between ages 10 and 24 (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2015). This problem hits close to home here in Ohio, where 14.3% of students reported seriously considering attempting suicide, 11.1% of students reported making a plan about how they would attempt suicide, 6.2% of students reported attempting suicide, and 1.4% of students reported attempting suicide that resulted in an injury, poisoning, or overdose that had to be treated by a doctor or nurse (Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 2013).

Most youth who attempt or commit suicide or other acts of violence display warning signs to at least one other individual *before* the incident occurs. Imagine how much tragedy could be averted if these individuals were trained to recognize these signs and said something? **Please consider registering for Sandy Hook Promise's Say Something Call-to-Action Week, October 19 – 23, 2015.** Say Something Call-to-Action Week raises awareness and educates students and the community through training, advertising, media events, public proclamations, and contests and school scholarship awards. Say Something Call-to-Action Week reinforces the power young people have to prevent tragedies and Say Something to a trusted adult to protect a friend from hurting themselves or others! Say Something teaches students, grades 6 -12, how to look for warning signs, signals, and threats, especially in social media, from an individual who may be threatening to hurt themselves or others and to Say Something to a trusted adult to get help. The program is based on research conducted by Dr. Dewey Cornell and Dr. Reid Meloy, two leading national experts in threat assessment and intervention.. **Attached here are (1)** Online registration information in the attached "Say Something" document, and **(2)** an email template that can be adapted and sent to schools and organizations in your community.

## Home-School Collaboration

To best support students who are at-risk for suicide or struggle with other mental health issues, it is important for school professionals and families to work together as a team. This collaborative effort will help promote positive mental health among students by sharing valuable information with each other and consistently providing students with necessary supports both at home and at school. **Read the attached brief to learn more about collaboration regarding youth mental health diagnoses** and how school professionals and families can work together to best support each student.

The Project AWARE Ohio team includes partners in 3 county ESC. If you are from those local areas and want more information about Project AWARE services, please contact:

**Cuyahoga County ESC:** Mary Wise; (216) 901-4201; [mary.wise@esc-cc.org](mailto:mary.wise@esc-cc.org)

**Warren County ESC:** Vycki Haught; (513) 379-2310;  
[vycki.haught@warrencountyesc.com](mailto:vycki.haught@warrencountyesc.com)

**Wood County ESC:** Angela Patchen; (419) 354-9010 x228; [apatchen@wcesc.org](mailto:apatchen@wcesc.org)

For information about Project AWARE in other regions of the state, please contact:

Emily Jordan: [emily.jordan@education.ohio.gov](mailto:emily.jordan@education.ohio.gov)

Cricket Meehan: [meehandc@miamioh.edu](mailto:meehandc@miamioh.edu)

Kathy Oberlin (Ohio Mental Health Network for School Success): [oberlink2@gmail.com](mailto:oberlink2@gmail.com)

Stay tuned for our  
next email blast  
during Mental Ill-  
ness Awareness  
Week,  
October 4-10 2015!