

# Multi-Tiered School Based Suicide Prevention Technical Assistance

# What is the purpose of our Multi-Tiered Technical Assistance (T/A)?

EDC's expert-led T/A seeks to support school and district teams in improving their systems by creating structural changes in policy and practice through strategic planning, implementation, and sustainability planning. EDC subject-matter experts support schools in aligning existing behavioral and social emotional efforts across tiers with Six evidence-informed suicide prevention components (Figure 1).

**Figure 1:** Six Multi-Tiered Suicide Prevention Components

- → Protocols for helping students at risk for suicide
- → Protocols for response after a suicide
- → Developing community partnerships
- → Identification of at-risk youth
- → Promoting protective factors
- → Engaging key stakeholders

## What school representatives receive T/A?

Independent teams from 8-15 schools participate in ongoing T/A. Each school's team represents the different tiers of education and the school community at large. These school teams typically include 1-2 members of the central office, 1-2 building level leaders, teachers, support staff, family members, and students. Schools are invited to create the teams they believe will be most effective in building a multi-tiered suicide prevention framework.

Year 1

Community of Practice

Team TA Support

Year 2

Planning, Implementation, Sustainability

→ Content
Development
→ Peer Sharing

→ Consulting and
Coaching



### What does the T/A include?

Over a period of two years, participating school teams engage in three core phases of work: planning, implementation, and sustainability. Hands-on action-planning, peer networking, and continuous improvement are embedded across the phases through a community of practice (CoP) and personalized technical support.

#### Community of practice (CoP)

CoPs are designed to facilitate peer networking and collaboration. Our CoPs includes virtual and/or inperson workshops bringing all school teams together to enhance skills through...

- Peer sharing, knowledge and skill acquisition,
- and team planning time focused on all six components of school suicide prevention
- → Opportunities to spotlight successes, challenges, and lessons learned from individual teams
- → Trauma informed SEL practices for all educators and leaders, and trainings on adult self-care
- → Guided action-planning facilitated by EDC s ubject-matter experts

#### Personalized technical support

As school teams engage in the CoP, T/A leads work individually with each school to...

- → Assess needs and conduct an inventory audit on what suicide prevention protocols, programs, and policies are currently in place and are being actively utilized
- Provide tailored guidance on the 6 major components of school suicide prevention for teams and how to strengthen these components across the planning, implementation, and sustainability phases
- → Provide evidence-based tools and resources to assist teams in each of these phases
- → Provide expert recommendations and guidance for choosing best practice mental health screenings, trainings, programs, and/or curricula
- → Provide expert recommendations and guidance for building and sustaining community partnerships to support school suicide prevention
- Engage in annual on-site visits to observe and engage with each school team





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