



Developing Policies and Procedures

This handout reviews the language from the Native Connections Funding Opportunity Agreement (FOA) regarding developing policies and procedures and reviews some of the types of policies and procedures that grantees might want to develop or revise.

Language from the FOA

Developing policies and procedures to **promote coordination across youth-serving agencies**. These *may* include:

- Standards of care for suicidal young people;
- Processes for helping young people transition into care and from one agency to another;
- The role of local traditional healing/helping practices in supporting suicide prevention, and substance abuse prevention among young people and their families; and
- The role of western/clinical mental health practices in supporting suicide prevention among young people and their families.

Grantees will also be required to:

- Develop or revise protocols to ensure that youth who are at high risk for suicide, including those who attempt suicide and use substances, receive follow-up services to ease their transition into treatment.
- Develop or revise protocols for responding to suicides, suicide attempts, and clusters. Designed to promote community healing and reduce the possibility of contagion (suicides following and connected to an initial suicide), these **“postvention” protocols** will reflect the traditions and culture of the tribe, tribal organization, or consortium of tribes or tribal organizations.

Types of Policies and Procedures

Issue/Need Identified	Policy/Procedure
Postvention	Postvention procedures – can be part of a school safety plan. There may be law enforcement or mental health



	clinic postvention protocols or may be within prevention team.
Agency Collaboration	MOU's and MOA's
Mental health transition in care, follow-up, inclusion of traditional healers	Policies within physical and behavioral health clinics to track depression, suicidal ideation, transition of care, and traditional/clinical/community follow up.
Overdoses in Community	One-page crisis response flyer
Overdoses in Community	Policies and postvention responses to fatal and non-fatal overdoses
Standards of Care	Behavioral Health Department Protocols
Remote, long distances suicide occurrences	Volunteer Crisis Response Team to help first responders, facilitate survivors getting help, and follow-up. Policies and protocols include communication processes, legalities, internal and external training requirements, trauma-informed protocols, inter-agency policies, etc.
Protection for crisis response team	Good Samaritan Law (law that provides basic legal protection for those who assist a person who is injured or in danger.)
Other Types of Policies that could be included in Strategic Action Plan	
Bullying Prevention	School anti-bullying policies and procedures
ATOD underage use	School athletic policies
ATOD underage use	Retail access to alcohol and tobacco
ATOD underage use	Server/merchant training to avoid selling alcohol to underage youth
ATOD underage use	Policies for maintaining safe and drug-free neighborhoods
ATOD usage at work	Workplace policies (such as drug testing, availability of treatment, etc.)
Adults buying ATOD for youth	Social host liability
ATOD underage use	Restrictions on the consumption of alcohol in public places
Need to set social/community standards	Safe and Drug Free Neighborhoods, Schools, and Workplaces