School Violence
National and Regional Resources
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
(Region VIII, 2014)

Now is the Time: The President’s Plan to Protect our Children & our Communities by Reducing Gun Violence

- Close background check loopholes to keep guns out of dangerous hands
- Take common sense steps to reduce gun violence
- Make schools safer:
  - Assist schools in completing security assessments and implementing emergency management plans.
  - Fund 1,000 school resource officers and psychologists, social workers and counselors.
  - Expand the implementation of evidence-based strategies to improve school climate to 8,000 more schools.
  - Disseminate best practices on school discipline policies and processes.
- Increase access to and improvement of mental health services:
  - Support 16-25-year olds at high risk for mental illness by funding innovative state-based strategies.
  - Fund student mental health services for trauma, anxiety, and school-based violence prevention strategies.
  - Train mental health professionals to serve students and young adults
  - Ensure insurance coverage of mental health treatment and parity with other health insurance benefits
- Implement Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education):
  - Provide “Mental Health First Aid” training for teachers
  - Help school districts work with law enforcement, mental health agencies, and other local organizations ensure that students with mental health issues are referred to the services they need
  - Launch a national campaign about mental illness
  - Develop and market SAMHSA’s “Toolkit for Community Conversations About Mental Health”

SAMHSA: Prevention
The Safe Schools/Healthy Students (SS/HS) program aims to promote safe school environments, healthy childhood development and mental health, and prevent substance abuse in the nation’s schools.  [www.sshs.samhsa.gov/initiative/resources.aspx](http://www.sshs.samhsa.gov/initiative/resources.aspx)

- Promoting early childhood social and emotional learning and development
- Promoting mental, emotional, and behavioral health.
- Connecting youth, families, schools, and communities.
- Preventing and reducing alcohol, tobacco, and other drug use.
- Preventing youth violence and bullying.

Literature on effective school-based violence prevention programs

SAMHSA: Coping with School Violence
Comprehensive list of resources on crisis response, stress management, trauma-informed care, and post-disaster recovery

- National Center for Trauma Informed Care  [www.samhsa.gov/nctic](http://www.samhsa.gov/nctic)

[www.whitehouse.gov/issues/preventing-gun-violence](http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/preventing-gun-violence)
SAMHSA: Publications and Resources

- “Prevention & Recovery: A Multi-Agency Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Collaboration.” Resources on law enforcement partnerships in schools, school resource officers, and teen dating violence prevention in Indian country
- “Interventions for Disruptive Behavior Disorders. Evidence-Based Practices (EBP) Kit”
- “Tips for Talking With and Helping Children and Youth Cope After a Disaster or Traumatic Event: A Guide for Parents, Caregivers, and Teachers”
- “Disaster Behavioral Health Preparedness and Response Resources”

SAMHSA: Technical Assistance Centers

- Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies Support (CAPT)
  - Purpose: Comprehensive training and technical assistance on Substance Use Prevention (including prescription drug abuse), Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF), Substance Use Epidemiology, website for CSAP grantees with resources and tools; on-line course, webinars, etc.
  - Central Region CAPT Office (ND, SD): Chuck Klevgaard, cklevgaard@edc.org
  - Southwest Region CAPT Office (CO): Marie Cox, mariecox@ou.edu
  - West Region CAPT Office (MT, UT, WY): Alyssa O’Hair, aohair@casat.org

- Tribal Technical Assistance Center (TTAC)
  - Purpose: Provides culturally appropriate and sensitive Tribal Technical Assistance to Native communities across the country who seek to address mental and substance use disorders and suicide
  - Contact: Maureen Madison, 240-276-1772, Maureen.Madison@samhsa.hhs.gov

Additional Federal Resources

- National Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention, www.promoteprevent.org
- National Resource Center for Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention, www.Healthysafechildren.org
- CDC, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/youthviolence
- Refer youth to a safe place to talk, www.ok2talk.org
- DoE, Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/osee/oshes/
- National Teen Dating Violence Hotline 1-866-331-9474; TTY 1-866-331-8453; Text "loveis" to 77054, http://www.loveisrespect.org/

HHS Region VIII Contacts

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