Reporting Options for Kansas Kids

Crystal Moe
Director of Administrative Operations
LawBase Project Manager
National Summit on School Safety Tip Lines

• 21 states + Canada
• 7 state presenters: different ideas
  – Colorado    - Oregon
  – Kentucky    - Michigan
  – Nevada      - Utah
  – Wyoming
• FBI Joint Terrorist Task Force
• Safer Schools Together (Canada)
Anonymous or Confidential way to communicate

- App
- Text
- Chat
- Email
- Web-based form
- Call

Ability to share real-time info, pictures, screen shots, videos, etc.
WHY: Kids have the Intel

- 1974-2000: In 81% of active shooter incidents someone knew prior to the attack.
- 93% of who knew was a peer, sibling or friend, but said NOTHING.
  - Safe School Initiative report funded by the U.S. Secret Service and the U.S. Department of Education, 2002
- 2017: 30 separate active shootings in the US– largest number recorded.
- FBI Report, June 2018 - Active shooters take time to plan for the attacks. This provides “leakage” or signs that can be observed in the weeks and months leading up.

“While incidents of lethal school violence are rare, situations in which classmates have knowledge of a peer's plan to do something dangerous are not.” – Code of Silence study, 2009
Don’t want to “get in trouble” (self or friend)
Snitch/tattle tale/stigma
Promised not to
Fear of retaliation
Not sure it is important
Embarrassed
Hard to stand up to peers
“Friend” is different now – online connections
Not sure who to tell
Recommends creating a central reporting mechanism. (Step 3)

“Regardless of what method schools choose to receive these reports, there should be an option for passing information anonymously, as students are more likely to report concerning or threatening information when they can do so without fear or retribution for coming forward.”
Current Options

- Kansas School Safety Hotline
- Bullying Prevention Hotline
- Suicide & Crisis Hotlines and chat
Initiated after Columbine
From Jan – May 2018
• Total of 53 calls
• 14 were hang-ups
  – Missed opportunities?
  – Wrong number?
  – We’ll never know
• 17 were administrative
• 18 were referred
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Referrals/Tips</th>
<th>Top Reports</th>
<th>Answered by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Safe2Tell</td>
<td>1,547 in May 2018</td>
<td>1. Suicide, 2. Drugs, 3. Bullying</td>
<td>Law Enforcement</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other States

Utah
SafeUT

- 13,543 chats and 7,263 tips for 17-18 SY
- #1 report: bullying
- #2 report: suicide
- #3 report: depression/cutting
- Answered by licensed mental health professionals through University of Utah

Nevada
SafeVoice

- #1 report: bullying
- Answered by stand-alone communications center
Success Stories

- “A concerned friend sent a tip and school officials were able to stop a fight where a student was being bullied after his parent died by suicide” – SafeUT

- “Tip of an 11 year old student who posted a handgun and sad face emoji on social media. Law enforcement and school became involved. It was determined student had been planning their suicide for 2 months and was prepared to carry it out very soon” – Safe2Tell Wyoming

- Many, many more like this shared!
From Educators

• “We have been able to intervene with several students struggling with suicidal thoughts. Also we have intervened on some potentially harmful threats.” – School Counselor

• “Students know right from wrong but sometimes it is hard to stand up in front of peers and put oneself out there. Safe2Tell gives voice to students who want to make a positive impact in and out of school. There was more than one incident that we were able to step in and help students with problems/situations that we wouldn’t have known about otherwise.” - Principal
• Tip line **does not replace** any other work we’re already doing in schools – just adds a layer of communication that students are more comfortable using.

• Offers a cost effective way to leverage the information we know is already there.

• Multiple states with experience we can learn from to determine what works best for our Kansas kids.