

Elyssa's Mission



- Annual practice with grades 6 and 8 (proposed)
- Protective addition to education plan already in place (Ann Marie's Law. IL Public Act 99-443)



Suicide Prevention for Students

SOS Signs of Suicide for Students is an affordable, evidence-based suicide prevention program that has been shown to reduce suicide attempts by 64%.

2024-2025 SOS Outcome Data for Middle and High Schools

87,939 Students Educated

5,697 Students Referred for Services



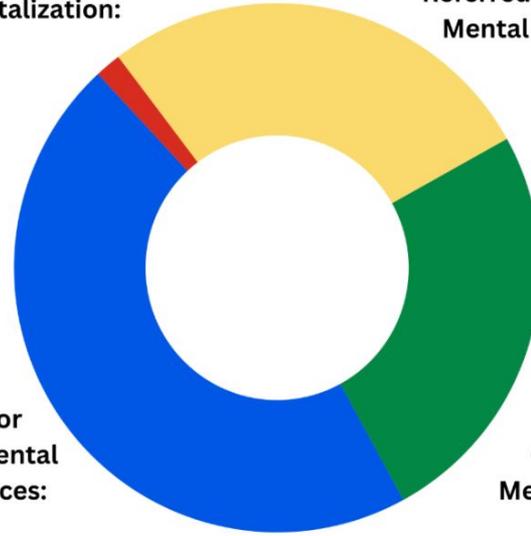
92 Lives Saved

Required Hospitalization:
2%

Referred for School - Based
Mental Health Services:
27%

Referred for
Continued Mental
Health Services:
46%

Referred for
Community-Based
Mental Health Services:
25%



What is the goal of the SOS program?

The SOS program seeks to *teach* youth that depression is a treatable illness, *empower* them to respond to a potential suicide (themselves, a friend or a family member), and *prevent* teen suicide. These goals are accomplished through the ACT technique:

Acknowledge you or a friend
may be depressed or suicidal

Respond with Care

Tell a trusted adult

- Parent letter is sent prior
- Lesson is done in 1 class period by our staff
- Brief Screener for depression and other risk factors
- Screeners scored immediately and sorted into
 - Priority 1, 2, or 3
 - Priority 1 needs are addressed same day with risk assessment and family awareness

Potential Timeline

- March or early April: Staff Training
- 10 days prior (or earlier) to SOS class lesson and brief screener parents are notified about the program to leave opportunity for questions. Parents may opt their student out.
- Mid to late April SOS program led by our staff with support of SOS projects directors and community outreach liaison

