

Mental Health Issues Certificate

All school employees have a role in addressing student and staff mental health issues, including issues related to addiction, response to traumatic events and suicidal ideation. This series will help all school employees understand their respective roles in addressing this complex issue. Through this series, participants will understand legal requirements, best practices and available resources designed to promote the mental health and safety of students and staff.



Day 1 – Webinar (live or archived) – Thirteen Reasons Why: How to Talk with Kids in Crisis

Presenters: David Nash, Esq. LEGAL ONE Director, Rebecca Gold, Former Director of Personnel and Administrative Services, Lawrence Township and Maureen Brogan, LPC, Statewide Traumatic Loss Coordinator, Rutgers University Behavioral Health Care

This webinar will review the many sensitive issues raised in the controversial television series *Thirteen Reasons Why*, including a review of legal requirements, best practices and available resources related to discussing suicidal ideation, bullying, dating violence, drug and alcohol abuse, and the role of schools in identifying and helping kids in crisis.



Day 2 – Addressing Student Mental Health Issues

Presenters: George Scott, Ed.S, LMFT; and David Nash, Esq., Director of LEGAL ONE

When students struggle with mental health issues, they are often times undiagnosed, and the behavior can be dismissed by school officials and parents as kids being kids, laziness, or worse. Often times, such students feel ashamed or confused and are unwilling or unable to seek assistance.

This workshop will provide clear guidance on the signs to look for when students are dealing with mental health issues, how and when to send students out for outside mental health review and clearance, and key steps to take in assisting such students. Participants will also learn about the issue of suicidal ideation and ways to identify and assist students at risk for harm to themselves or others.

Participants will see a preview of *Signs Matter: Early Detection*, an online suicide prevention training course, which includes scenarios and expert analysis.

Dr. Harry Green is a clinical and forensic psychologist. In addition to his role as an administrator with Rutgers University's University Correctional Health Care, he maintains a private psychology practice in Cherry Hill, NJ. He has extensive experience working with at-risk adolescents and with school districts to address the needs of school employees.



Day 3 – Addressing Staff Mental Health Issues

Presenters: Harry A. Green, Psy.D.; and David Nash, Esq., Director of LEGAL ONE

When staff members are struggling with mental health issues, school districts face a series of complex legal, medical and educational issues. This workshop will provide clear guidance on the signs to look for when a staff member is dealing with mental health issues, strategies for assisting staff members, key steps to take in documenting any changes in behavior and their impact on staff performance and student safety; when and how to require staff members to be sent for mental health evaluations and procedures to use when this occurs, and understanding what reasonable accommodations may be required to address staff members dealing with mental health issues.



Online – Signs Matter: Early Detection An innovative online course on suicide prevention

This comprehensive course will satisfy New Jersey’s requirement for all educators to have 2 hours of instruction on suicide prevention, including the link between bullying and suicide, every 5 years. The course is designed to provide easy access to critical information. It includes:

- A series of real world scenarios, addressing situations at the elementary, middle school and high school levels, and expert analysis of each scenario;
- An overview of research, best practices and the latest data related to suicidal ideation;
- A review of legal requirements under New Jersey’s Anti-Bullying Bill of Rights and other key student safety requirements;
- Supplemental resources and references for those seeking a deeper understanding of key issues; and
- An online assessment tool to ensure that all participants have gained an understanding of the material covered

What They’re Saying About Signs Matter:

“We used Signs Matter to train our entire staff on suicide prevention. The content was superb, and it was an efficient and cost-effective way to address this critical and mandated training.”

Cohort 1

Day 1 - Sep. 12, 2017; 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
 Day 2 - Oct. 30, 2017; 9 am - 3 pm at FEA
 Day 3 - Nov. 7, 2017; 9 am - 3 pm at FEA

Cohort 2

Day 1 - Sep. 12, 2017; 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
 Day 2 - Feb. 7, 2018; 9 am - 3 pm at FEA
 Day 3 - Apr. 23, 2018; 9 am - 3 pm at FEA

Fee: \$150 for each in-person training
 \$35 for the online course
 \$40 for the webinar
 \$300 for the whole series - a savings of \$75

Register at www.njpsa.org/legalonenj