

Suicide Prevention Action Plan for Criminal Justice System

Being involved in the criminal justice system can be very stressful and have significant toll on mental well-being. The criminal justice system is an important partner in promoting wellness and preventing suicide. Below are some opportunities for action as well as resources to learn more.

Sign up for the [Suicide Prevention Newsletter \(public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNMDH/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNMDH_271\)](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/MNMDH/subscriber/new?topic_id=MNMDH_271). For additional support or guidance, complete the [Suicide Prevention TA form \(redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=8RT4XKK7HH7EE3RN\)](https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=8RT4XKK7HH7EE3RN).

Opportunities for action



Implement universal mental health and suicide risk screening and assess protocols.

- [Suicide Prevention Resource Guide \(ncchc.org/wp-content/uploads/Suicide-Prevention-Resource-Guide.pdf\)](https://ncchc.org/wp-content/uploads/Suicide-Prevention-Resource-Guide.pdf): National Commission on Correctional Health resource guide for corrections.
- [Screening and Assessment for Suicide Prevention \(nicic.gov/screening-and-assessment-suicide-prevention-tools-and-procedures-risk-identification-among-juvenile\)](https://nicic.gov/screening-and-assessment-suicide-prevention-tools-and-procedures-risk-identification-among-juvenile): National Institute of Corrections tools and procedures for risk identification among juvenile justice youth.



Promote connectedness to ensure that incarcerated individuals maintain regular contact with family and other sources of support.

- [Minnesota Department of Health Supporting Children of Incarcerated Parents \(health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/jail.html\)](https://health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/jail.html) Supporting Children of Incarcerated Parents in Minnesota.
- [Child Welfare Gateway \(childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/youth/engagingyouth\)](https://childwelfare.gov/topics/systemwide/youth/engagingyouth): information for child welfare professionals and other adults about engaging youth. Includes resources for youth on participating in decisions that affect their lives, and on meaningful involvement in case planning, court processes and youth advisory boards.



Lower barriers to seeking mental health care by reducing stigma, ensuring confidentiality, and maintaining an effective referral system.

- [US Department of Justice \(info.nicic.gov/nicrp/system/files/018604.pdf\)](https://info.nicic.gov/nicrp/system/files/018604.pdf): Effective Prison Mental Health Guidelines to Expand and Improve Treatment.



Promote resilience of incarcerated individuals with education and outreach through, suicide prevention, coping/life skills, resiliency training.

- **Mental Well-Being and Resilience Learning Community** (health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/community.html): The Minnesota Department of Health leads a monthly learning opportunity for anyone interested in building resilience and promoting well-being.
- **Minnesota Department of Corrections Transitions Coalition** (health.state.mn.us/communities/mentalhealth/community.html): Connecting coalitions and communities with access to resources, programs and services for people impacted by incarceration to thrive and reduce risk.



Promote and support a mental health continuum of care.

- **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration** (store.samhsa.gov/sites/default/files/d7/priv/sma16-4998.pdf): Guidelines for Successful Transition of People with Mental or substance use disorders from Jail and Prison: Implementation Guide.



Promote general health and physical functioning of incarcerated individuals.

- **The World Health Organization** (who.int/europe/health-topics/prisons-and-health) Promoting health in prisons: a settings approach



Establish and communicate clear policies and procedures across systems (e.g., schools, jails, hospitals, courts) to support individuals returning to a community setting after seeking care for suicidal ideation or other mental health concerns.

- **The Bureau of Justice Assistance** (bja.ojp.gov/doc/building-effective-partnerships-with-continuums-of-care.pdf): Building Effective Partnerships with Continuums of Care to Increase Housing Options for People Leaving Prisons and Jails.

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To obtain this information in a different format, call: 651-201-5400.