

INDIAN AFFAIRS DIRECTIVES TRANSMITTAL SHEET

(modified DI-416)

DOCUMENT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 30 IAM 14	Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention Services	RELEASE NUMBER #11-05
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION Bureau of Indian Education		DATE JUL 28 2011

EXPLANATION OF MATERIAL TRANSMITTED:

BIE supports school initiatives promoting suicide prevention and early intervention, and further acknowledges the role of schools in fostering positive and emotional development. This policy mandates specific actions for BIE-operated schools to continue to develop and implement core competencies for suicide prevention, early intervention activities, and postvention services.



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FILING INSTRUCTIONS:

Remove: None

Insert: 30 IAM 14

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- 1.1 Purpose.** The Bureau of Indian Education (BIE) recognizes suicide is a critical mental health issue among American Indians/Alaska Natives (AI/AN), particularly AI/AN youth. In recognition of this alarming mental health concern, BIE supports school initiatives promoting suicide prevention and early intervention, and further acknowledges the role of schools in fostering positive and emotional development. This policy mandates specific actions for BIE-operated schools to develop and implement core competencies for suicide prevention, early intervention activities, and postvention services.
- 1.2 Scope.** This policy applies to all BIE-operated elementary and secondary schools and residential facilities. While tribally-controlled grant and contract schools are not bound by this policy, they are encouraged to develop suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention policies and programs. Grant and contract schools are welcomed and encouraged to use resources developed by BIE and to participate in BIE-sponsored suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention trainings.
- 1.3 Policy.** Bureau-operated schools and residential facilities must take the following actions:
- A.** Implement the BIE suicide prevention policy which explores and utilizes evidence-based research in an effort to identify successful models and best practices to promote school-based suicide prevention programs and services
 - B.** Ensure School-level and Residential Program implementation to include the following:
 - 1. Provide culturally appropriate educational activities for staff and students emphasizing that suicide is preventable by implementing effective prevention programs which address at-risk behaviors. Programs must include suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention models.
 - 2. Integrate protective factors and resiliency-promoting programs throughout the day-to-day operations that create a safe and secure climate.
 - 3. Establish an Emergency Management Team (EMT) as a means to develop support for suicide prevention. The EMT will develop and deliver proactive approaches through response drills and formalized crisis management protocols during the academic year to respond to suicidal ideations, attempted suicide, and suicide.
 - 4. Develop and implement of postvention services and support for those affected by a suicide or suicide attempt.
 - 5. Develop community-based suicide prevention partnerships with established parent and community organizations. This includes developing an understanding of youth suicide and resources available in the community to address childhood and adolescent distress, and prevention of suicide.

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6. Identify and establish partnerships to provide effective referral services to appropriate community agencies for students considered to be at-risk of suicide, in collaboration with community providers such as the Indian Health Service and/or tribal behavioral health programs.
7. Conduct an annual assessment of existing school services and reevaluate for revisions for suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention protocols, policies, and procedures.

1.4 Authority. Public Law 107-110 *No Child Left Behind Act*, Title IV and X, 2001.

1.5 Responsibilities.

- A. Director, BIE. The BIE Director is responsible for final approval of the Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention policy.
- B. Associate Deputy Directors. The Associate Deputy Directors are responsible for reporting implementation issues to the Director; and for supervising the ELOs and Division of Performance and Accountability (DPA) for adherence to the Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention policy.
- C. School Safety Specialists. The School Safety Specialists are responsible for providing technical assistance for suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention activities, school-level policy development, training activities, partnership liaisons, best practices information sharing, compilation of school-level annual evaluations, and system-wide data collection and reporting in BIE-operated schools and dormitories.
- D. Program Specialist (SCAN). The SCAN Program Specialist is responsible for receiving and compiling Critical Incident and Death Reports, including suicide and attempted suicides from BIE-operated schools nationwide, and ensures appropriate distribution of report information to key BIE officials.
- E. Education Line Officers. The Education Line Officers are responsible for ensuring the Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention policy is fully implemented by BIE-operated schools and dormitories.
- F. School Principals. The School Principals are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Suicide Prevention, Early Intervention, and Postvention policy; coordinating consultation between teachers, health care professionals, and other school personnel; and coordinating suicide prevention, early intervention, and postvention activities in BIE-operated schools and dormitories.