



# **Nathan Bruno & Jason Flatt Act of 2021**

Prepared by: Amy Mello Messenger, LICSW

# What is the Nathan Bruno & Jason Flatts Act?

Requires training of teachers, students (6th thru 12th grade), & school personnel regarding suicide awareness and prevention, and the establishment of a conflict resolution process between teachers or school personnel and students. It requires each district to develop and adopt a student suicide prevention policy including prevention, intervention, and postvention.

2021-S 0031 - State of Rhode Island General Assembly  
Nathan Bruno & Jason Flatts Act



# Suicide Prevention Evidence Based Curricula: Erika's Lighthouse



Erika's Lighthouse is a suite of programs including an introduction to mental health, depression-literacy, help-seeking and what it takes to promote good mental health. Focused on grades 4-12, these no-cost, skills-based programs use diverse teen voices to spread awareness and reduce stigma.

# Erika's Lighthouse

## Skills-Based

Erika's Lighthouse classroom education programs are skills-based, meeting National Health Education Standards. Curriculum has been written by leading skills-based experts to ensure our programs can meet the needs of classrooms across the country.

While skills-based programs are designed to be part of a broader health education curriculum, they also help students develop important skills that can be used throughout their lives. Our program address standards 1, 3, and 7.

## Evidence-Informed

The way young people communicate with each other is always changing. School climate is always changing. Mental health research is always changing. That's why we're always changing.

- Evidence-informed and data-driven – allowing you flexibility to adapt for your classroom
- **Independently evaluated** by Dr. Michael S. Kelly, PhD, LCSW, Loyola University
- Research into our work has been **peer-reviewed**

## Consistent & Flexible

- Video-based
- 4 Lessons with 1-day options
- Flexible to allow for grade level crossover
- Promote good mental health and help-seeking
- Utilizing best practices and aligning seamlessly with other programs
- Ideal for multi-disciplinary implementation within schools
- Meet requirements for mandated mental health and suicide prevention education in many states

# Suicide Prevention Evidence Based Staff Training

## Columbia Suicide Prevention Training

This training is based on the Columbia Lighthouse Project -The Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS), a series of questions that anyone can use to prevent suicide. The Suicide Risk Identification and Triage Using the Suicide Severity Rating Scale is an online training in the use of the tool. The training provides support to use the tool within a school or community context. Bradley Hospital and Rhode Island Student Assistance Services provides training in the C-SSRS.



# Suicide Prevention Evidence Based Staff Training

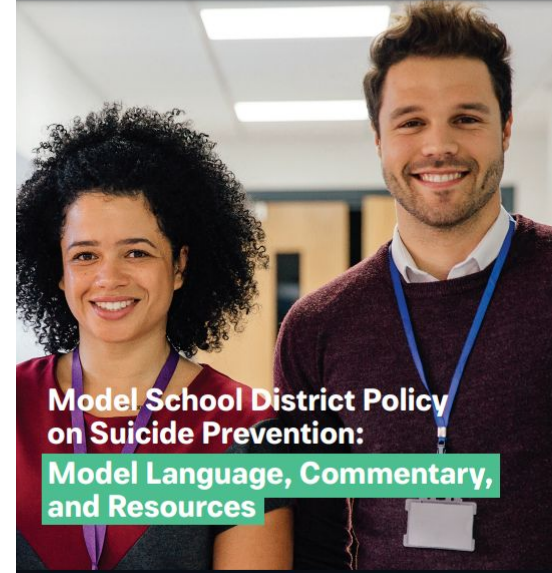
## Youth Mental Health First Aid

National Council on Mental Well Being -YMHFA is designed to teach anyone how to help a youth who is experiencing a mental health or substance use challenge or is in crisis. The course includes: mental health challenges for youth, reviews typical adolescent development, and provides guidance through the ALGEE action plan for both crisis and non-crisis situations. Staff training and training of trainers are available.



# Suicide Prevention Policy

PPSD will be working collaboratively as a Wellness Team made up of School Nurse Teachers, Health Teachers, School Psychologists, School Social Workers, School Counselors as well as with parents and the community in creating a suicide prevention policy for the district.



# Resources

- [RI Model Policy on Suicide Prevention](#)
- [Model School District Policy on Suicide Prevention: Model Language, Commentary, and Resources](#)
- [RI Department of Education School Mental Wellness Resources](#)
- [Resource List for School Based Suicide Prevention Curricula and Staff Training](#)



Ka

