

Potential Youth Violence: Behavioral Indicators, Prevention, and Intervention

Program Description

This program will focus on the identification of behavioral indicators of potential violence in young people. In addition, participants will be provided with an overview of suicide risk assessment for adolescents and young adults. In the longer program an additional focus will involve community response to violent incidents and advance crisis planning.

Program Objectives:

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to:

- Outline data from the most recent North Carolina Youth Risk Behavior Survey related to selected risk behaviors.
- List behavioral indicators and risk factors that could be indicative of potential violence exhibited by youth.
- Explain potential youth violence intervention strategies, to include family-based interventions and parenting skills.
- Describe key concepts related to prevention and intervention when working with suicidal adolescents and young adults highlighting relevant research.
- Name elements of community response to violent incidents.
- Identify components of effective crisis response plans.

Target Audience

Physicians, advanced practice providers, nurses, social workers, psychologists, counselors, substance abuse professionals, teachers, case managers, adult clinicians, therapists, and others working with children.

Contact Hours

1.5 to 3.0 contact hours

Program Agenda

Hour 1: Identification of youth risk and initial intervention strategies.

Hour 2: Intervention strategies continued to focus on youth suicide prevention.

Hour 3: Community response to violent incidents and crisis planning.

Faculty

Matthew Sullivan, JD, MSW, served the Town of Chapel Hill in several roles over a 32-year career. His last appointment was as Fire Chief, where he was responsible for Town and Departmental leadership and oversight. As a member of the Town's executive staff, he participated in the development and implementation of the Town's strategic vision. Other positions that Matt held during his career include Emergency Management Coordinator, Interim Director of Planning and Sustainability, Staff Legal Advisor, Interim Police Attorney, Police Crisis Counselor, Narcotics Investigator, Departmental Hostage Negotiator., Community Police Officer, Crime Prevention Officer and DARE Officer.

Matt received his undergraduate degree in Political Science from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1989 and a Master of Social Work Degree from UNC-Chapel Hill in 1997. He received a Degree in Law from North Carolina Central University in 2006 and is a member of the North Carolina State and Judicial District 15-B Bars. From 1995 to 1999, Matt was appointed Coordinator of Substance Abuse Programs at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In this capacity, he had the responsibility of administering the day-to-day operations of the campus alcohol and other drug treatment and prevention efforts. Much emphasis was also placed on environmental interventions directed to altering campus social norms surrounding dangerous student drinking and life skill development in student athletes. Matt is an adjunct faculty member at the University of North Carolina School of Social Work. He is a certified North Carolina Criminal Justice Instructor and is certified in Critical Incident Stress Management. He previously served as Chair of the Judicial District 15-B Criminal Justice Community Partnership Adult Services Advisory Committee and on the UNC-CH General Alumni Association Board of Directors. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the NC Governor's Institute (on Substance Abuse) and for the South Orange Rescue Squad. Matt is a recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, the 2019 Chapel Hill Chamber Town and Gown Award, The Chapel Hill Police Department's Herman Stone Award for Community Service, and a Distinguished Alumnus Award from the UNC-School of Social Work. In 1994 he was named Chapel Hill Police Officer of the Year.