Each year in schools and communities across the United States, there are millions of youth who hurt themselves or others through verbal, physical, and digital means. These behaviors can cause youth to experience emotional trauma and physical injury, mental health or wellness issues, stress or anxiety, and/or feelings of being unsafe. Too often the outcome results in self-harm, suicide or homicide.

**What is the Problem?**

Approximately, 1,000,000 students reported being harassed, threatened or subject to other forms of cyberbullying (www.nveee.org/statistics/, 2016).

80% of school shooters told someone of their violent plans. 59% tell more than one person (Vossekuil, B., et al., 2002).

70% of people who complete suicide told someone of their plans or give some other warning sign (Robins, E., et al., 1959).

A national study found that 37% of threats of violence, bullying, etc. were sent electronically and 28% used social media (Trump, K., 2015).

**The Facts**

In a majority of these acts, youth and adults are witness to threats, warning signs or signals, especially on social media, but do nothing to intervene to help the at-risk youth. In fact,

- Approximately, 1,000,000 students reported being harassed, threatened or subject to other forms of cyberbullying (www.nveee.org/statistics/, 2016).
- 80% of school shooters told someone of their violent plans. 59% tell more than one person (Vossekuil, B., et al., 2002).
- 70% of people who complete suicide told someone of their plans or give some other warning sign (Robins, E., et al., 1959).
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**The Reasons**

There are many reasons why youth and adults do not Say Something when they see a warning sign or signal. They do not:

- Understand or know how to recognize warning signs and signals of at-risk behavior.
- Believe a threat to be true because “they would never say it publicly if they meant it.”
- Want to be labeled, stigmatized and/or possibly physically threatened as a “snitch.”
- Know who to tell or “believe that nothing will be done to help anyhow.”
- Think they need to because someone else will say something.
What is THE SOLUTION?

The Say Something Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS) teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, of individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and Say Something, using our anonymous reporting system, BEFORE it is too late.

The SS-ARS curriculum and reporting platform are delivered to school districts at NO COST.

SS-ARS Curriculum Teaches

- How to recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors – especially within social media
- Take every sign and signal seriously; act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult OR
- Report anonymously through SS-ARS 24/7 Crisis Center, mobile app, or website
- Respond to and manage the SS-ARS via a multi-disciplinary team (teachers/admin. only)
- Sustain the Say Something curriculum in student clubs with help from our program team

SS-ARS Reporting Platform

- Provides an app, website and 24/7 crisis telephone hotline for youth and adults to submit anonymous tips
- Features nationally certified, 24/7 Crisis Center with multi-lingual counselors trained in suicide and crisis management to receive and disposition all tips received via app, website and telephone hotline
- Triages all tips into “Life Safety” or “Non-Life Safety” for instant routing and prioritization by school officials and/or law enforcement via text, email and phone calls
- Provides in-person system set-up and training of ALL students, school personnel, and law enforcement
- Is managed and maintained by a national 24/7 Crisis Center digital school safety leader with combined 30+ years of experience
How the SAY SOMETHING WORKS

**STEP 1**
Submit an Anonymous Tip

- **Call the tipline:** 1-844-5-SAYNOW
- **Use the Website:** www.saysomething.net
- **Use the Mobile App:** Available for Apple and Android devices

**STEP 2**
All Calls and Tips Sent to 24/7 Multilingual Crisis Center

1. A Crisis counselor receives and reviews tip information
2. The tip is triaged and categorized as either Life Safety or Non-Life Safety
3. The tip is then sent to school officials and law enforcement (as needed) via text, email and phone call within seconds of being received

**STEP 3**
School Officials & Law Enforcement Intervene and Help Individual(s)

1. School officials and law enforcement (as needed) act immediately to investigate, assess and intervene on reported at-risk individuals
2. The at-risk individual receives the help he or she needs BEFORE they ever get to the point of hurting themselves or others
3. School officials report their outcomes into the SS-ARS platform and close out the tip ensuring accountability for every tip submitted

How is the program DELIVERED & SUSTAINED?

**SS-ARS is delivered through our:**

- 150+ Certified national trainers who will train students, school personnel and local law enforcement via one to one, train-the-trainer, classroom and/or auditorium style sessions
- Interactive training video, via national digital education leader EVERFI, in order to minimize time away from class
- Program coordinators who, for districts that qualify, are embedded in your district office, at our cost, to manage and sustain SS-ARS (and any other SHP Know the Signs programs)
- Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Promise Club or existing student club by embedding SS-ARS in the club in order to empower students to carry it forward and keep awareness high within district schools
- On-going support, refresher trainings and call-to-action weeks to rally school personnel and student clubs around the SS-ARS program
- No cost in-school awareness materials – posters, floor stickers, table tops, etc. to gently remind students of the app, website and 24/7 telephone hotline

**SS-ARS is sustained through our:**
Educate, through direct and digital trainers, youth and adults to recognize warning signs and signals of at-risk individuals

Provide in-person system set-up and training of school personnel and law enforcement on the SS-ARS system

Provide a comprehensive 24/7 anonymous reporting platform of app, website and 24/7 telephone hotline

Provide 24/7 crisis center with 20+ years of experience and certified crisis counselors to triage tips and disposition those tips, within seconds, to assigned school personnel and law enforcement (when needed)

SHP paid employees to manage and sustain the program in your school district ensuring acceptance and use by youth and adults

Provide student club set-up and all awareness materials for in-school activities and placement

A proven digital platform that has received and managed tens of thousands of tips for over 10+ years

Deliver all of the above at NO COST to your district via generous support of our donors, state and federal grants, foundations and events

Go to SAY-SOMETHING.NET to bring SS-ARS to your school district
Sandy Hook Promise (SHP) is a national, nonprofit organization based in Newtown, Connecticut. SHP is led by several family members whose loved ones were killed in the tragic mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012. SHP’s mission is to prevent gun violence (and other forms of violence and victimization) BEFORE it happens by educating and mobilizing youth and adults to identify, intervene and get help for at-risk individuals. SHP is a moderate, above-the-politics organization that supports sensible program and policy solutions that address the “human-side” of gun violence by preventing individuals from ever getting to the point of picking up a firearm to hurt themselves or others. Our words, actions and impact nationwide are intended to honor all victims of gun violence by turning our tragedy into a moment of transformation.

For more information about Sandy Hook Promise and our Know the Signs program, please visit www.sandyhookpromise.org.