

**SAFE**  **SAY**™

**SOMETHING**

# SAFE SAY<sup>™</sup>



## SOMETHING

### What is the problem?

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.

**21%**

of high school students are bullied on school property in Pennsylvania each year<sup>[1]</sup>

1. 2017 CDC's Youth Risk Behavior study
2. [www.nveee.org/statistics/](http://www.nveee.org/statistics/), 2016
3. Vossekuil, B., et al., 2002
4. Robins, E., et al., 1959
5. Trump, K., 2015
6. 2017 CDC's Youth Risk Behavior study



## WHAT IS THE SOLUTION?

The Safe2Say Something Anonymous Reporting System 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 BEFORE it is too late.

**SAFE**  **SAY**  
**SOMETHING**

Provides an app, website, and 24/7 crisis telephone hotline for youth and adults to submit anonymous tips

Provides training on how to recognize the signs and signals of at-risk behaviors – especially within social media

Works to take every sign and signal seriously; act quickly to get help by talking to a trusted adult

# The Facts

In a majority of these acts, youth and adults are witnesses to threats, warning signs, or signals, especially on social media, but do not report or intervene to help the at-risk youth. In fact:

- Approximately, 1 million U.S. students reported being harassed, threatened or subject to other forms of cyberbullying<sup>[2]</sup>
- 80% of school shooters told someone of their violent plans. 59% told more than one person<sup>[3]</sup>
- 70% of people who complete suicide tell someone of their plans or give some other warning sign<sup>[4]</sup>
- A national study found that 37% of threats of violence, bullying, etc. were sent electronically and 28% used social media<sup>[5]</sup>

# 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, 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

## HOW IT WORKS

### Step 1

Submit an anonymous tip

Call the tipline



1-844-SAF2SAY

Use the Website



[www.safe2saypa.org](http://www.safe2saypa.org)



Use the mobile App available for Apple and Android devices

### Step 2

All calls and tips received by the 24/7 crisis center

1

A crisis center analyst 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/or phone call within seconds



### 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 with reported at-risk individuals

2

At-risk individuals receive the help they need BEFORE they ever get to the point of hurting themselves or others

3

School officials report their outcomes into the Safe2Say Something platform and close out the tip, ensuring accountability for every tip submitted

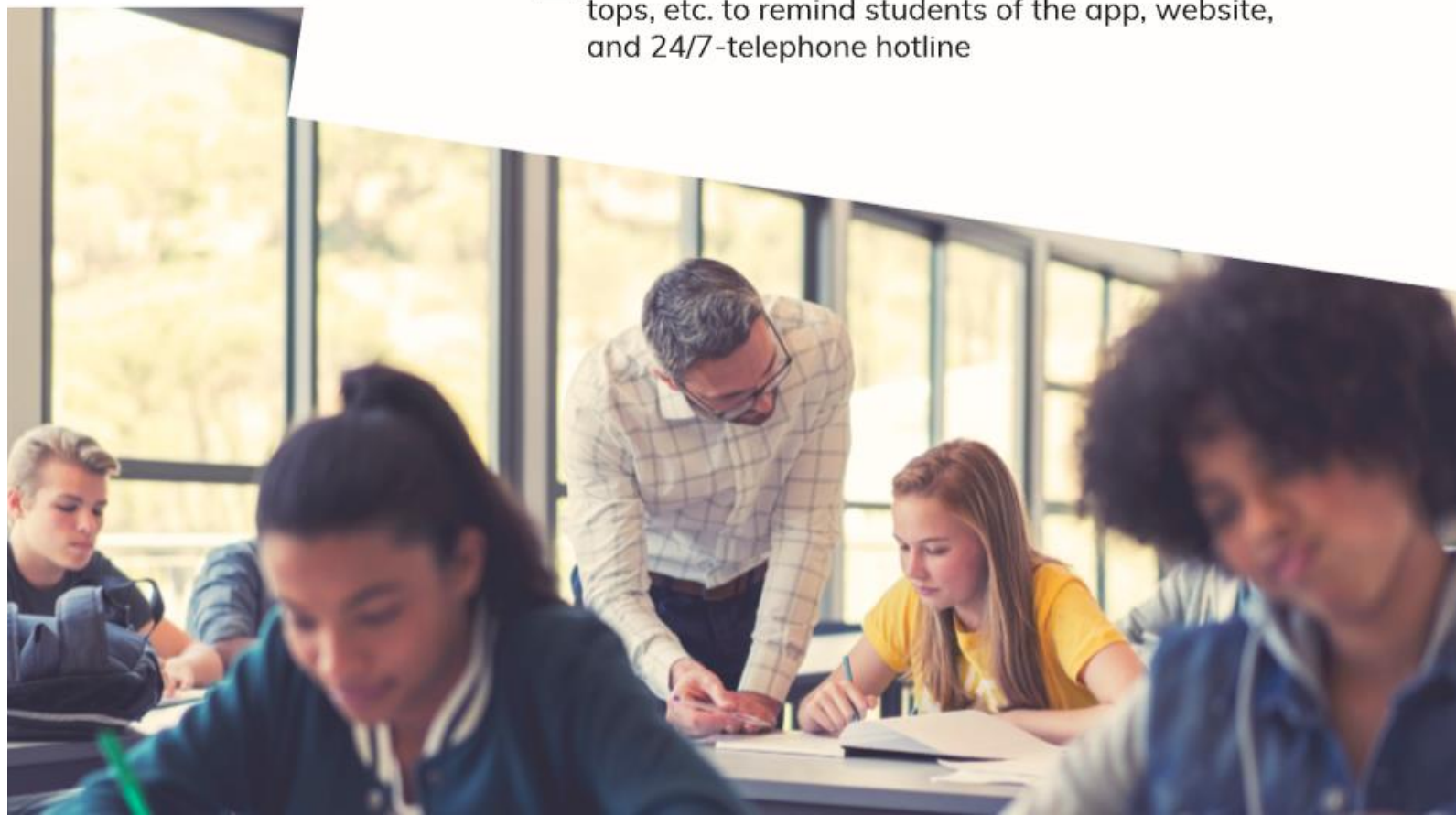
**17.3%**

of high school students are electronically bullied in Pennsylvania each year<sup>[6]</sup>

## How is the Program Sustained?

Safe2Say Something is sustained through our:

- Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) Promise Club or existing student club by embedding Safe2Say Something in the club in order to empower students to carry it forward and keep awareness high within schools
- On-going support, refresher trainings and call-to-action weeks to rally school personnel and student clubs around the Safe2Say Something program
- No cost, in-school awareness materials – posters, table tops, etc. to remind students of the app, website, and 24/7-telephone hotline



# SEE IT. REPORT IT.

## WHY SAFE2SAY SOMETHING WILL BE SUCCESSFUL...

- 1** Educating students, educators and administrators how to recognize the signs and signals of individuals who may be at-risk of hurting themselves or others
- 2** Intervening days, months, and years before a tragedy could ever take place, truly driving prevention
- 3** Fostering a connected, “up-stander” culture where at-risk students are getting help
- 4** Reducing violence, suicide, self-harm, bullying, drug use and other at-risk behaviors and actions
- 5** Reducing suspensions, tardiness, absenteeism, damages, and trauma... creating safer and healthier schools



**The Safe2Say Something program and crisis center is operated  
by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General.**