

Yellow Ribbon Implementation Chart in MN

Creating community-based, sustainable suicide prevention programming to save and enrich lives.

PHASE ONE: Planning and Organizing

Activity	For Who	Details
Community Organizing & Suicide Prevention 101 Training	Key Stakeholders in the Community– should include representatives from each school, churches, health care & mental health care, hospital, law enforcement, businesses, public health, social services, parents, students, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint presentation live or via conference call • Attendance by multiple community members who will be planning for and implementing suicide prevention efforts. • Includes brief overview of best practices in suicide prevention as well as how to plan for presentations • .Allow two hours. • Group present will form the basis of a community committee who will plan and coordinate activities
Train the Trainer: Community Educator Volunteer Speakers (OPTIONAL TO DO THIS – OR YOU CAN ACCESS YR PRESENTERS)	These volunteers need to be competent public speakers, willing and able to commit their time to doing presentations for various groups in the community, many of which happen during the workday.	Train the Trainer will educate volunteers and provide them with the starter kit of tools they need to present: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suicide Prevention 101/Community Organizing 2. Be A Link Adult Gatekeeper Training 3. ASK/Be A Link Teen Classroom Training 4. Yellow Ribbon Ask4Help Presentation Presenters will need to utilize Microsoft Powerpoint software.
Review of Procedures for Prevention, Intervention and Postvention & Protocol Development	Any businesses, organizations, schools, churches, etc. where presentations will be held will need to arrange for this before presentations are scheduled.	Review of any current crisis plan, policies and procedures currently in place to deal with suicide. We will make recommendations and provide assistance as you develop concrete plans on a chain of events should an individual be identified. Worksheets will be provided.

PHASE TWO: Initial Program Kickoff

Activity	For Who	Details
Be A LINK Adult Gatekeeper Training	Planning group & all staff of locations holding presentations, plus adults who will act as support persons (any adult who is involved in planning, implementing, works w/target).	Held prior to youth presentations. Follows the acronym LINK L – Look and Listen for clues I - Initiate a conversation and help if necessary N - Network with local resources to build a safety net K - Keep in touch to provide ongoing support. Local mental health support persons present.
Yellow Ribbon Community Presentations	Parents invited through school, advertised and open to public	Builds community awareness of Yellow Ribbon, how the cards work, and how to be a gatekeeper – connect to help.
Yellow Ribbon “Ask4Help” Presentations	Appropriate for youth grades 5-12 (7-12 recommended) including parochial and alternative schools	General assemblies held in auditoriums - youth are taught mental health connection to suicide, how to use the cards, where to get help, not to keep a secret, and if they are ever with someone who is suicidal to STAY, LISTEN and GET HELP. Support persons are introduced & present throughout so attendees can self refer.
Yellow Ribbon Teen Suicide Prevention Trainings	Classroom trainings for grades 7-12.	Elaborates on the symptoms, warning signs, risk factors and protective factors and gives scenarios of what a friend might act like if they needed help, as well as how to respond appropriately – DON’T KEEP A SECRET – get adult help!

PHASE THREE: Program Continuation & Sustainability

Activity	For Who	Details
Yellow Ribbon Youth Boards	Open to all – high risk youth too!	Build youth involvement to assist with promoting messages.
“Ask4Help” Presentation	New group of seventh graders	See above – important to always have support persons.
YR Teen Suicide Prevention Training	At least for certain grades or health classes/senior experience classes	Classroom trainings held each year. See above – important to always have support persons at presentations.
Repetitive adult and community presentations	Adults at all locations where held previously & new targets	Offer Be A Link as a repetitive training and offer additional opportunities for community training too. New locations.
Progress Review and Reorganization	Planning group	Look at outcomes, celebrate successes, make changes or adjustments as needed. Review current statistics and discuss new strategies. Plan for sustainability.