

## Youth Suicide Prevention (SSB 6431)

1. **Purpose/objective – (Why does this program/service exist? What is the driving force behind this program/service?):** The purpose of the OSPI Youth Suicide Prevention Program is to implement Senate Bill 6431 (2014) [RCW 28A.300.288](#) to:
  - a. Collaborate with state agency and community partners to assist schools in implementing youth suicide prevention activities.
  - b. Coordinate training for school employees, parents, community members, and students in recognizing and responding to the signs of suicide.
  - c. Collaborate with the PESB and DOH on an approval process for suicide prevention training required for school counselors, psychologists, social workers, and nurses.
  - d. Prioritize funding to communities identified as high risk (as determined by DOH) and administer those resources and technical assistance to coalitions of community members who collaborate with ESDs and schools to perform youth suicide prevention activities.
  - e. Respond to communities determined to be in crisis after a suicide or non-suicidal self-injurious behaviors to prevent suicide contagion and provide needed support for staff and students.
2. **Number of staff associated with this program/service (indicate where applicable):**  
  
**Fiscal Year: 2017**  

<b># of OSPI staff associated with this funding (FTEs):</b>	1.0
<b># of contractors/other staff associated with this funding:</b>	1

  

<b>FY 17 Funding: State Appropriation:</b>	\$142,000
<b>Federal Appropriation:</b>	\$0
<b>Other fund sources:</b>	<u>\$0</u>
<b>TOTAL (FY17)</b>	\$142,000
3. **Are federal or other funds contingent on state funding? If yes, explain.** No
4. **Is continued funding needed in the next biennium?** Yes
5. **What is the current status of this program's implementation?** Contracted services performed by The University of Washington, Forefront Innovations in Suicide Prevention, provides a field coordinator to conduct training, technical assistance, and coalition building in Okanogan, Stevens, and Island Counties, the three counties identified as high-risk by the Department of Health Injury Data. Each county's field coordinator performs outreach to ESDs and school districts for the provision of technical assistance and training to help schools meet the requirements of [RCW 28A.320.127](#).
6. **When will the project be completed?** Of the 30 districts in the three prioritized counties, four have completed their required suicide prevention plans for all schools, five districts' plans are in development and under review with Forefront. There is still significant need for all schools to have comprehensive suicide prevention plans in place, conduct staff training, and engage community partners through community coalitions.
7. **First year funded:** FY 2015
8. **State funding history:**

Fiscal Year	Amount
FY17	\$142,000
FY16	\$142,000
FY15	\$148,000

**9. Programmatic changes since inception (if any):** The 2017-18 school year will mark year three of the program and a continuous process improvement effort has contributed to an updated SFY18 Contract with UW to increase program capacity. Funding for the contractor continues to be appropriated from HB 1163 (2012)

**10. Major challenges faced by the program:** Results from the 2016 Healthy Youth Survey show students reporting mental health needs, depression, suicide ideation, suicide planning, and suicide attempts. Currently the program funding allows for a .25FTE field coordinator in each of the three counties to complete the work with each school and community coalition in the respective county. This limited resource faces barriers for completing the work with schools who are limited in the time they can dedicate to this work. OSPI consults with agency partners and UW Forefront to continue to inform statewide resources available to schools via the School Safety Center Website in an effort to support schools not in the three identified counties.

**11. Future opportunities:** Funding committed for this focus area does not meet the need to support schools statewide, and is marginally meeting the need for the three identified counties. Entering into year 3 of the contract with UW, OSPI plans to continue to learn from the existing program delivery efforts to inform discussions about providing support to schools statewide.

**12. Statutory and/or Budget language:**

**Budget Proviso:** 2ESHB 2376, Sec. 501 (22), page 190, - \$142,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2016 and \$142,000 of the general fund--state appropriation for fiscal year 2017 are provided solely for the implementation of Chapter 103, Laws of 2014 (Substitute Senate Bill No. 6431) (youth suicide prevention).

**13. Other relevant information:** The program coordinates with many other efforts at OSPI including the School Safety Center, Homelessness, behavioral health, foster care, social emotional learning, physical health, health education, extended learning programs, institutional education, health services, and the Professional Educator Standards Board.

**14. Program Contact Information:**

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