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# **Updates from the State Suicide Prevention Team: Advancements and Initiatives**

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**The Office of Mental Health Coordination**  
**Texas Health and Human Services**

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# Objectives

- Gain insight into the ongoing efforts of the state suicide prevention team and explore how these efforts can be applied to directly support your work in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.
- Discover and learn how to implement lessons learned in developing a comprehensive suicide prevention program.
- Learn how the Suicide Care Initiative can help you or your organization implement suicide safe care practices and effective suicide prevention strategies.

# Meet the Team



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**Director of Suicide Prevention  
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Specializes in:

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# Meet the Team

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# Meet the Team

Jennifer Crutsinger, LPC-S



**Suicide Prevention Specialist**

Specializes in:

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**Suicide Safe Care Coordinator**

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# Suicide Care Initiative (SCI)



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- SCI focuses on enhancing suicide care in the public mental health system through the Local Mental Health Authorities (LMHAs) and Local Behavioral Health Authorities (LBHAs).
- SCI continues implementing safer suicide care practices through **The Zero Suicide Framework.**



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# Regional Suicide Care Support Centers (RSCSCs)



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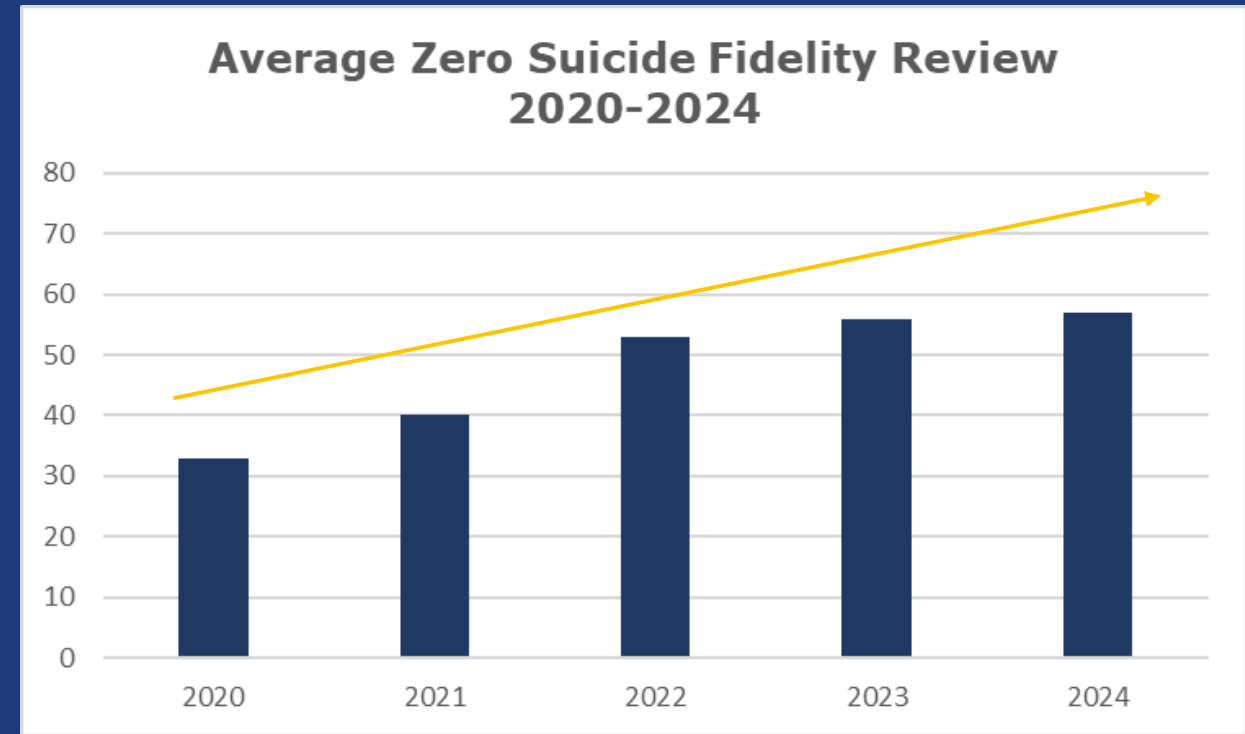
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# Zero Suicide Framework Implementation 2020-2024



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- Regional Suicide Care Support Centers undergo yearly fidelity reviews to assess how they implement of the Zero Suicide Framework.
- The goal "score" for implementation is 80.
- Since 2020, the average implementation score has increased from 33 to 57.





# Strengthening Suicide Prevention Through SCI



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- Suicide prevention coordinator available at every LMHA and LBHA.
- Free suicide prevention trainings.
- Technical assistance.
- Community of practice calls and shared knowledge.
- Community partnerships and engagement.
- Zero Suicide fidelity reviews.

# Resilient Youth Safer Environments (RYSE)



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- Five-year youth suicide prevention grant (2019-2024).
- Creates comprehensive Suicide Safer Early Intervention and Prevention Systems aimed at supporting youth-serving organizations.
- Supports youth ages 10-24 in Galveston County.
- State partnerships include Gulf Coast Center, Region 4 Education Service Center, Texas Suicide Prevention Collaborative, and the Texas Institute for Excellence in Mental Health at University of Texas-Austin (UT-TIEMH).

# RYSE: Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Efforts



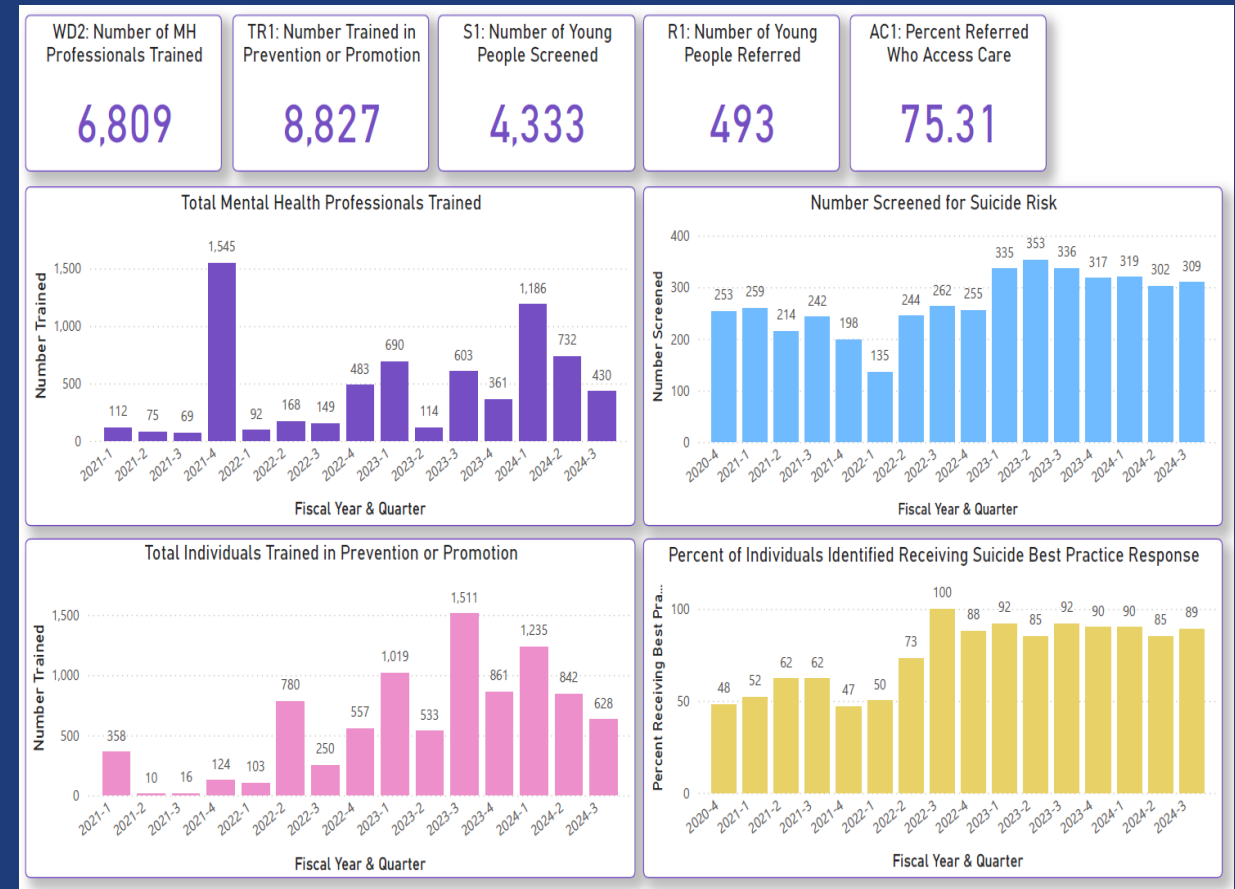
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- Connect with an LMHA and LBHA.
- Work to engage and connect with community stakeholders such as school districts, higher education, faith-based organizations, first responders and medical professionals.
- Consider establishing or joining a local suicide prevention coalition.
- Identify how to embed practices in your organization.
- Facilitate suicide-safe care trainings in the community.
- Promote help seeking and provide resources and crisis lines.
- Work to gather and share data across systems.



# RYSE Outcomes

- Established the Galveston County Suicide Prevention Coalition in May 2021.
- Over 8,800 individuals in schools and through the community have been trained in mental health awareness.
- Regional Higher Education Suicide Care Summit held March 2023.





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# Thank you!

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