2022 Annual Report
Sedgwick County Suicide Prevention Coalition

Suicide isn’t the answer
We are here 24/7
660-7500
Suicide Prevention Coalition YOU’RE NOT ALONE

Sedgwick County... working for you

SEDGwick COUNTY Health Department
COMCARE A Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic
KU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE WICHITA The University of Kansas
Thank You!

• Sedgwick County Health Department
  – Kaylee Hervey
  – Kenny Lee

• Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center

• COMCARE
  – Michelle Calvert
  – Jennifer Wilson
  – Regina Hafner-Stout
2022 Suicide Rate

• 108 suicide deaths in Sedgwick County.
• 21 suicide deaths per 100,000 Sedgwick County residents.
Comparisons with State and National Rates

Suicide Death Rate per 100,000 in Sedgwick County, Kansas, and the United States, 2001-2022

- Sedgwick County
- Kansas
- United States

Year


Rate per 100,000

0 5 10 15 20 25
Suicide Rates per 100,000 by Age

Suicide Death Rate by Age, Sedgwick County 2018-2022
Suicide Rates per 100,000 by Gender

Suicide Death Rate by Gender, Sedgwick County 2018-2022

Year

Rate per 100,000

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

Male

Female

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SEDGWICK COUNTY
Health Department
Suicide Rates per 100,000 by Method

Suicide Death Rate by Method of Death, Sedgwick County 2018-2022

- Firearm
- Hanging/Suffocation
- Drug Overdose/Poisoning
- Other

Year:
- 2018
- 2019
- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
Mental Health and Suicide History

• 49% of deaths had known history of mental illness
  – Depression was the most commonly noted mental illness
  – Anxiety was the second most common
• 44% of deaths had known history of suicidal ideations
• 17% of deaths had known history of previous suicide attempts
• 32% of deaths had known history of medical illness
• 46% of deaths had known history of substance misuse
  – Alcohol misuse was the most commonly noted substance
  – Illicit drug use was the second most common
Life Stressors by Age: 2018-2022

Specified Life Stressors by Age from Suicide Case Files, 2018-2022

- Relationship Problem
- Legal Problem
- Financial Problem
- Job Problem
- School Bullying
- School Stress
- Physical Health Problem
- Gambling
- Other

Suicide Deaths

- <24 years
- 25-34 years
- 35-54 years
- 55-64 years
- >64 years
Local Suicide Prevention Efforts

• Mental Health First Aid
  – 29 classes taught in 2022 resulting in 468 people trained
• Community presentations on mental health awareness and self care
  – 26 classes reached over 350 community members
  – Expanding classes have reached over 1,000 community members in 2023
• All Wichita police trained in evidence based suicide screening approach
• Suspenders4Hope Preventing Suicide Training program
  – 2,046 people completed training in 2022
• Stop Suicide ICT provided trainings in CALM and QPR as well as community outreach events
• Zero Reasons Why implemented in 17 schools in the Wichita metro area
  – Trained 12 teen ambassadors in 2022, 32 teen ambassadors in 2023 so far
• Mental Health Association and Mirror Inc received grants from KDHE to fully implement Zero Suicide practices
• Survivors of Suicide Loss Day provided support for over 30 loss survivors in the community
The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline now has an easier to remember number.

Dial 988 to be connected to a local Lifeline Contact Center.
Know the Signs


- **BEHAVIOR**: Increased alcohol/drug use. Isolation from family and friends. Sleeping too little/too much. Withdrawing from activities. Seeking access to pills/weapons or other means.

What can you do?

- Take it seriously, if someone mentions suicide.
- Talk openly and matter-of-factly about suicide.
- Be willing to listen. Allow expressions of feelings. Accept the feelings.
- Offer hope that help is available.
- Do not leave him or her alone.
- Get help immediately!
Get Involved

• Community Health Improvement Plan
  – Contact Kelsey Lipkea
    Kelsey.Lipkea@sedgwick.gov

• Mental Health First Aid classes for youth and adults
  – Sept 15, Sept 29, Oct 10
  – Contact Danette Abernathy 660-7850

• https://ichoosetotalk.org/

• Suspenders4Hope Run/Walk September 30
  – https://runsignup.com/Race/KS/Wichita/Suspenders4Hope5kand1Mile

• Veteran Community Partnerships Drive Thru Resource Fair is set for Oct 6