

SAFETY TALK

September is National Suicide Prevention Month 5 Things You Should Know



Suicide is a leading cause of death among working-age adults in the United States. It deeply impacts workers, families, and communities. Fortunately, like other workplace fatalities, suicides can be prevented. Below are 5 things to know about preventing suicide.

1 Be Aware

Everyone can help prevent suicide.

Mental health and suicide can be difficult to talk about—especially with work colleagues—but your actions can make a difference. When you work closely with others, you may sense when something is wrong.

2 Pay Attention

Know the warning signs of suicide.

There is no single cause for suicide but there are warning signs. Changes in behavior, mood, or even what they say may signal someone is at risk. Take these signs seriously. It could save a life.

3 Reach Out

Ask “Are you okay?”

If you are concerned about a coworker, talk with them privately, and listen without judgment. Encourage them to reach out to your Employee Assistance Program (EAP), the human resources (HR) department, or a mental health professional.

4 Take Action

If someone is in crisis, stay with them and get help.

If you believe a coworker is at immediate risk of suicide, stay with them until you can get further help. Contact emergency services or the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline.

5 Learn More

Suicide prevention resources are available.

- Call or text the Suicide and Crisis Lifeline at 988.
- Visit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (www.afsp.org) to learn more about suicide risk factors, warning signs, and what you can do to help prevent suicide

Getting Help

If you or someone you know is struggling or in crisis, help is available. You can call or text **988** in the United States and Canada to reach the [988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline](https://988lifeline.org/), available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

1-800-321-OSHA (6742) TTY 1-877-889-5627 osha.gov/preventingsuicides

SAFETY TALK

Safety Talk Sign-In Sheet National Suicide Awareness Month

Agency: _____

Crew: _____

Supervisor/Talk Leader: _____

Date: _____

Print Name

Signature

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Safety Talks are published by NDLTAP in cooperation with the National Local Technical Assistance Association and participating partner organizations.

