

January 2024

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska PUBLIC POLICY
CENTER

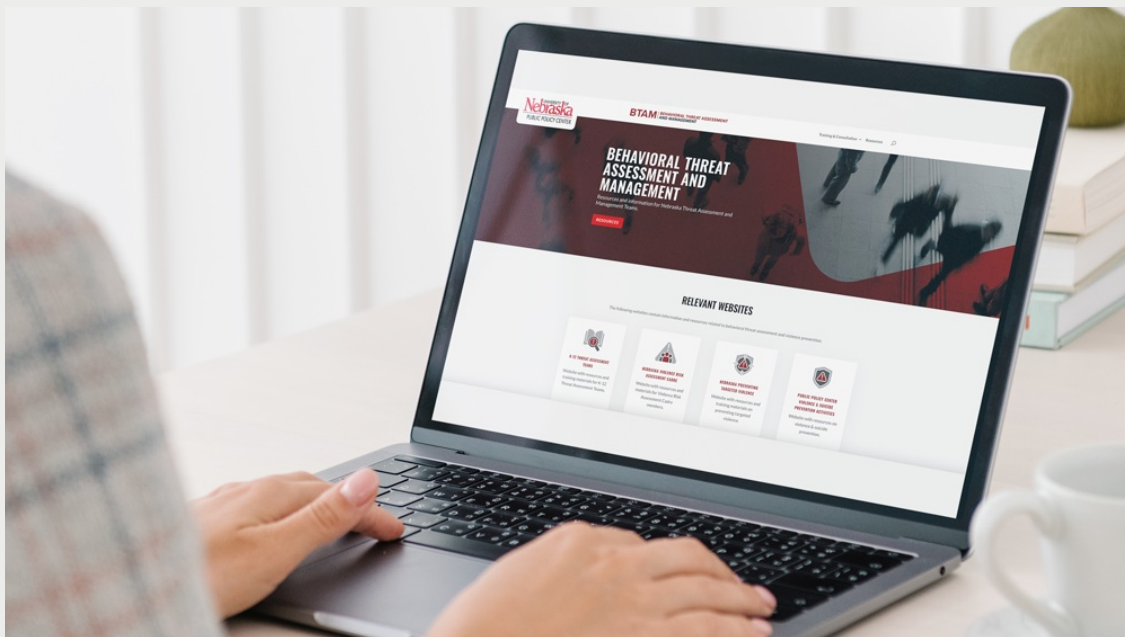


POLICYTALK

The Latest in Public Policy
Center News and Events

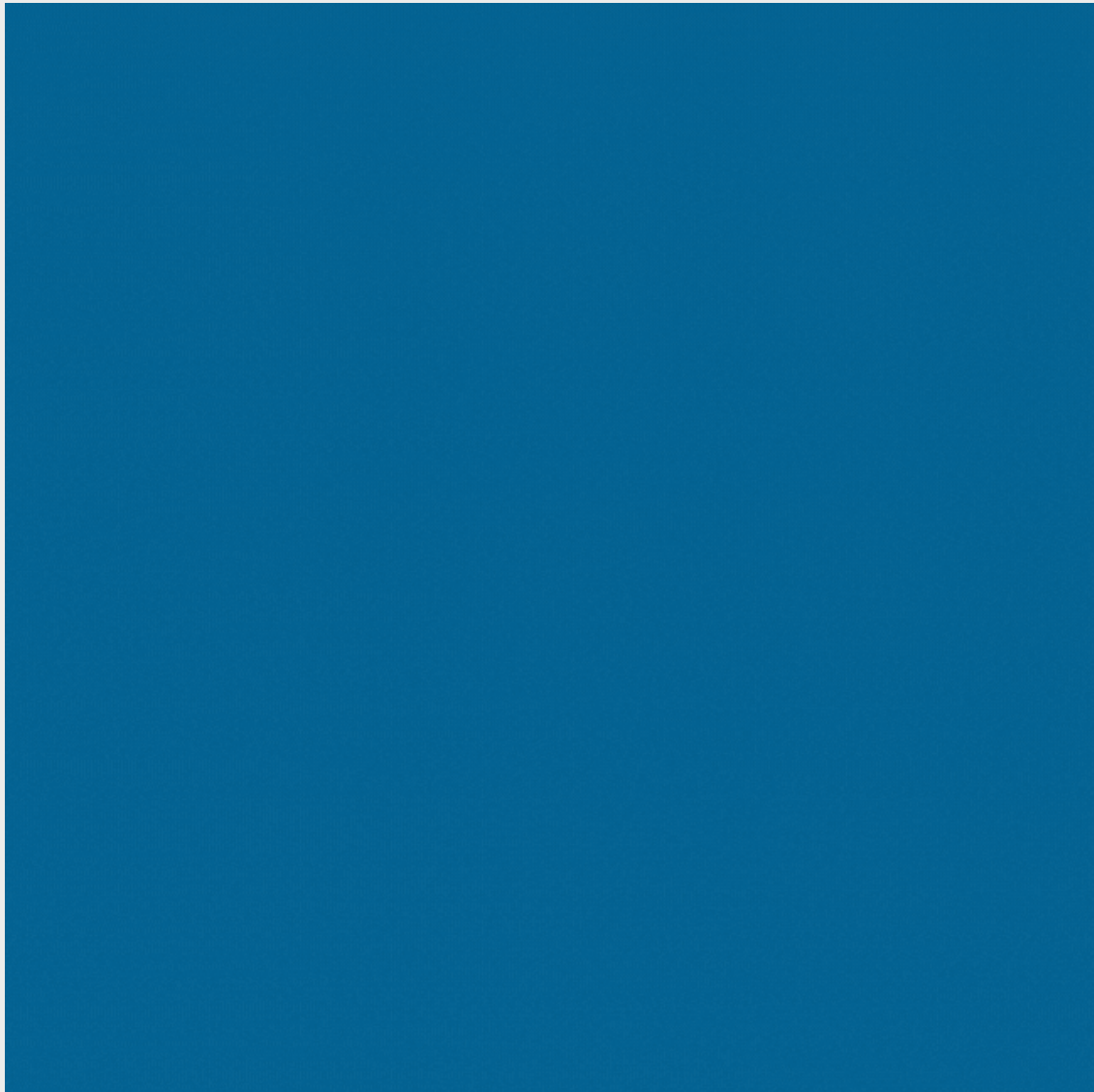
Featured News

New Website and Newsletter Offer Resources on Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management



The Public Policy Center recently launched a new threat assessment website and quarterly newsletter focused on Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management training across the state. The website highlights the PPC's threat assessment and management activities and provides related resources and information. The quarterly newsletter notifies threat assessment professionals, law enforcement, and school administrators about upcoming trainings and the latest research happening in the area of threat assessment. In the next two years, the project will provide trainings to help behavioral health professionals assess violence as part of their regular practice.

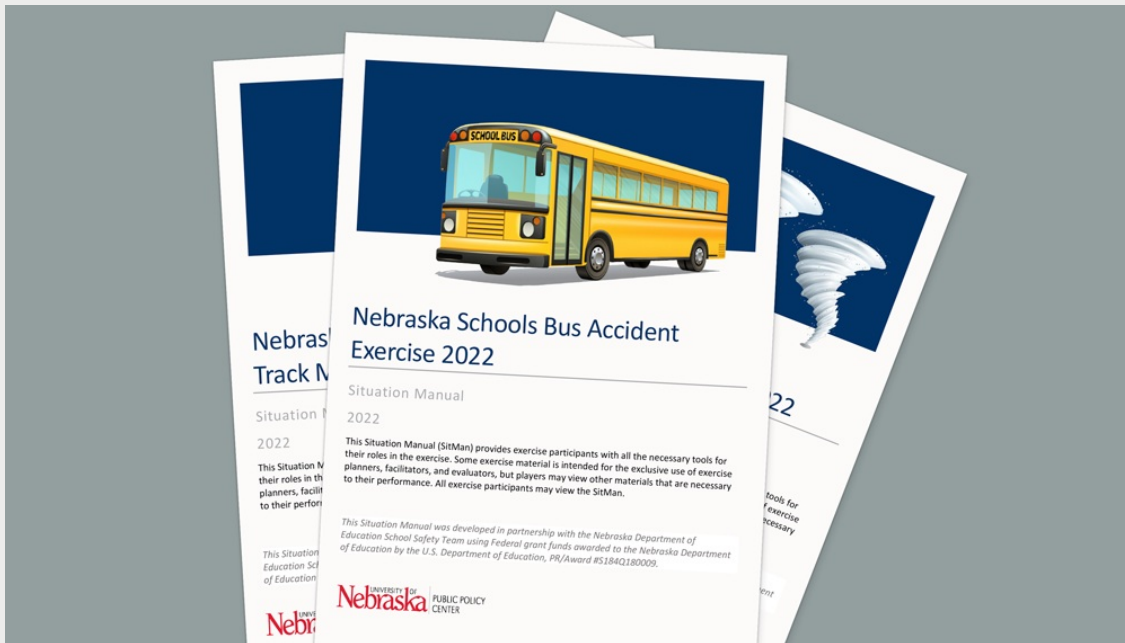
Safe2Help Nebraska Status Report Shows Impacts of Anonymous Reporting Line for Nebraskans



The latest **Safe2Help Nebraska** progress report shows the impact of the Safe2Help anonymous reporting line for Nebraskans. The line received 2,716 tip reports since January 2020. The reporting line serves 64% of the student population across 90 Nebraska school districts. 49% of all tips came from a mobile device, 36% from the web, and 15% via a phone call. The largest number of tips (22%) concerned issues related to bullying. See the [news coverage](#).

Project partners for **Safe2Help Nebraska** include the Nebraska Department of Education, Boys Town Nebraska, University of Nebraska Public Policy Center, and the Nebraska Council of School Administrators.

Prepare for Unexpected Events and Emergencies



The **disaster mental health website** includes a new webpage focused on school preparedness. It includes emergency operations situation manuals from tabletop exercises to help school administrators, staff, and community partners (such as first responders and emergency managers) prepare for emergencies. The scenarios, which include a bus accident, outdoor sports event, tornado incident, and cybersecurity phishing attack, help schools and communities test and improve their emergency operations plans.

[Visit the Website](#)

New Year Office Renovations



Our office finished out the year with a little refresh! We received a new front desk area for our administrative staff.

Events

Peer Support Specialist Values, Ethics, and Boundaries

FREE ZOOM TRAINING

January 31, 2024

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (Central)

This training will educate participants (Nebraska Peer Support Specialists and CPSS supervisors) about Peer Support Specialist values and ethics based on the Nebraska Peer Support Specialist Code of Ethics and their relationship to values and ethics of licensed behavioral health clinicians. **More information.**

This training has been approved for 3.75 continuing education (CE) credits for psychologists, 3.75 CE credits for Nebraska CPSS, and 3.75 CE credits for Nebraska LMHPs/LIMHPs.



Lisa Goodale, MSW

**Register
Today**

Peer Support and De-escalation

FREE ZOOM TRAINING

February 22, 2024

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (Central)

This training will educate participants (Nebraska Certified Peer Support Specialists) about de-escalation strategies, discuss the role of verbal and non-verbal communication, and describe safe practices in de-escalation. **More information.**

This training has been approved for 2.75 continuing education (CE) credits for Nebraska CPSS.



Chad Magdanz

**Register
Today**

Center News

Welcome Our New Office Manager



This month, we welcomed **Valerie Swartz-Hansen** as our new Operations Manager. Valerie earned a B.S. degree in Psychology with an emphasis in Human Resource Development from Pittsburg State University and her MBA with an emphasis in Human Resource Management from Friends University. Valerie served UNL for the past 12 years where she focused on establishing relationships with faculty and staff while leading finance and human resource activities. Welcome, Valerie!

Great Plains Association of Threat Assessment Professionals Nominates New President



Dr. Denise Bulling, senior research director at the Public Policy Center, has been elected president of the Great Plains Chapter of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP), which is a non-profit organization comprised of law enforcement, mental health professionals, security experts, and other professionals involved in the area of threat and violence risk assessment. Congratulations, Denise!

Upcoming Publication Announcement



Dr. Kate Speck and her co-authors have a new article accepted for publication titled "Testing the Incremental Effectiveness of Pay-for-Performance to Improve Implementation of a Motivational Interviewing Intervention for Substance Use Disorders in HIV Settings." Congratulations, Kate!

[Read Preprint Here](#)

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