Legislative Report

A Report to Colorado House and Senate Education and Judiciary Committees

**Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety**

C.R.S. 24-33.5-1801, et seq.

**Submitted to Executive Director of Colorado Department of Public Safety
December 31, 2012**

**Submitted to Colorado House and Senate Education and Judiciary Committees
February 2013**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mission

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC – also referred to as the "Center") in the Department of Public Safety (Department) was created by Senate Bill 08-001 (CRS §§24-33.5-1801, et seq.). The mission of the Center is to assist local schools and communities to create safe and positive school environments for Colorado students, pre-K through higher education.

The CSSRC has four staff members and provides no-cost consultation, resources, training, and technical assistance to foster safe and secure learning environments, positive school climates, and early intervention to prevent crises. Information and resources from the CSSRC are available to all schools, school officials, and community partners throughout Colorado. The Center supports schools and local agencies in the four phases of school safety planning: prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.

The Center has a 17-member advisory board from various state agencies and others with a stake in school safety issues in Colorado.

Key Accomplishments in 2012

The Center provides a central and readily available repository of resources for school safety related issues. Consistent with its legislative mandate, the Center has worked to deliver services and foster collaborations on these issues across agencies and community partners. The following are highlights of key accomplishments for 2012.

1. **Enhancing Electronic Communication Capability –** The **new CSSRC website** continues to be a dynamic hub of current and topical information for schools, emergency responders, community partners and parents (http://www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter or http://www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC).
   - The website underwent a redesign making it more user-friendly and searchable. Additionally, a monthly E-Update newsletter is distributed to a **listserv that now includes over 5,345 members** representing various stakeholder groups around the state. The newsletter includes school safety news, resources and upcoming training opportunities. In April 2012, the Center initiated a **Twitter account** to update followers between issues of the E-Update, which can be found at http://twitter.com/CoSSRC.
   - The Center continues to update its email list of designated **safety contacts for each school district and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)** to communicate electronically with schools about important safety **resources and issues**.

2. **Providing Training, Consultation and Resources –** During 2012, the Center co-hosted eight topic-focused trainings in five locations throughout the state**.**
   - Three **Bullying Prevention Institutes** were held in Aurora (January 2012); Thornton (March, 2012); and Silverthorne (October 2012), co-hosted with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado Legacy Foundation (CLF) to further awareness and knowledge of HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools). Four hundred seventy-nine (479) participants attended this series of trainings in 2012, affording them strategies and resources to foster a positive school climate while reducing bullying in Colorado schools.

- Three **Youth Substance Abuse Symposiums** were held in 2012 in Fort Collins (May), Pueblo (May) and Thornton (September). In partnership with the CDE and the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, 335 participants were updated on substance use and abuse among students and provided resources and information on promising programs for addressing these issues in schools.

- The fourth regional **Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium** was held in Aurora (November 2012), in cooperation with the Office of Suicide Prevention, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and CDE. This fourth Symposium of the series raises the total to over **646 people trained about youth suicide prevention, assessment and postvention practices for schools since 2010.** A resource guide for Colorado schools on evidence-based programs has been created and distributed. Suicide prevention is seen as relevant and essential for the safety and well-being of schools and communities, and helps to address the high level of concern about suicide statistics in our state.

- The Center and the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB), with assistance from the Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool (CSDSIP), hosted a training of trainers on **Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools** (August 2012). This training, provided by the U.S. Department of Education, was to assist districts in developing policies to address the topic and train staff. CSSRC staff are now scheduling workshops on this important topic at individual schools/districts.

- **Creation and Delivery of Online Learning –** During 2012, the Center launched its first two **online training courses** for school personnel. These interactive courses provide training without travel and have embedded resources for the participants. The Center owns the software template to continue to add additional courses to its library of online offerings.

- The CSSRC has been providing various staff development, topic-focused trainings and consultations in school districts and charter schools in the state. In 2012, **52 trainings** or workshops were provided or co-hosted on a variety of school safety topics bringing the total number of people trained since the Center opened to 10,981.

- Finally, during 2012 the CSSRC received and responded to approximately **945 requests for resources, trainings, consultations and technical assistance** on a variety of school safety-related issues. The Center distributed over **25,000 hard copies of 320 school safety-related resources** (variety of topics), showing the continued utilization of the Center as a Colorado resource.

3. **Advancing School Emergency Preparedness –** The Colorado School Emergency Operations Plan Exercise Toolkit was developed collaboratively with the former Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the former Colorado Division of Emergency Management, Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool and CSSRC. This Toolkit was distributed to schools electronically and by mail in 2011. Copies have been sent to all county emergency managers in 2012 to elicit their assistance in working with schools to conduct tabletop exercises. The Center also continues to facilitate these exercises when requested by schools across the state. With the July 1, 2012, consolidation of services, the newly created Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management within the Department of Public Safety provides additional opportunities for the Center to more easily coordinate with the state's emergency management personnel.

4. **Developing and Deepening Collaborations –** Recognizing the need to maximize services and resources to schools, especially in these difficult economic times, the Center has been collaborating with a multitude of agencies since its existence in 2008. Currently, Center staff participates in regular meetings with 13 organizations and have more actively worked with five additional groups in 2012. The Center has also been the organizing entity for the Youth Suicide Symposiums, the Bullying Prevention Institutes, and the Youth Substance Abuse Trainings coordinating with over a dozen organizations for these three endeavors alone.

Current Initiatives

The Center's role is expanding and evolving as school safety efforts in Colorado progress. The following are initiatives on which the CSSRC is focusing at this time and collaborating with various stakeholders statewide.

- **Bullying and Harassment in Schools –** The Center has received its **first foundation grant from the Gill Foundation** to continue this work in 2013, adding a minimum of five trainings across the state. The collaboration with CDE, the Colorado Legacy Foundation, the Anti-Defamation League and One Colorado will continue to facilitate these trainings. An updated version of the CSSRC *Bullying & Harassment Prevention and Education: School Resource Guide* is provided to all participants as well as other timely resources in accordance with HB11-1254.

- **CSSRC School Safety Personnel Work Group –** A new Center work group addressing the utilization of non-sworn school safety personnel started in 2012. The goal by September 2013 is to develop best practices for the hiring and training of these professionals for schools, which do not have school resource officers or other sworn officers.

- **Youth Substance Abuse Prevention –** The CSSRC has collaborated with the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) to develop training and resources related to youth substance use and abuse. This work began in FY 2011 with a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools. Due to the initiative of the CSSRC, collaborative efforts now include development of regional trainings to bring youth substance abuse awareness, prevention and intervention training to Colorado stakeholders. Three one-day trainings were held in 2012 with one more planned in 2013.

- **CSSRC Youth Advisory Group –** Although the Center has utilized student focus groups in the past, a consistent student voice on school safety concerns has not previously been a part of the Center's efforts. The CSSRC is currently creating the framework for an ongoing youth advisory group, Youth Engaged in School Safety (YES²) starting spring 2013. This group will meet four times per year, supplemented by a two-day training in the summer. YES² is designed to provide the student perspective to the CSSRC about school safety and positive school climates.

- **Alternatives to Suspension Training –** In the 2012 legislative session, the School Finance Act (HB12-1345) was amended to include SB12-046, Discipline in Public Schools. This bill allows school administrators and local boards to use their discretion to determine appropriate disciplinary response to incidents in their buildings. It also aims to eliminate zero-tolerance policies that have resulted in unnecessary expulsions, suspensions and law enforcement referrals. The Center is collaborating with a number of other state agencies and non-profit organizations to design a one-day workshop to educate school personnel on alternatives to suspension and resources available to Colorado schools. The first workshop is being planned for spring 2013.

Looking Forward

All available data indicate that use of school safety related resources, trainings, consultation and technical assistance provided by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center has continued at a similar or increased pace during 2012. In addition, the CSSRC has enhanced the knowledge about school safety practices, legislation and resources through the website, informational newsletters, and training provided across the state and now online.

Cuts to school districts, higher education institutions, and some law enforcement agencies across the state have caused continuing concern about the ability of local districts and schools to maintain a focus on school safety and the components of the Colorado Safe Schools Act (CRS §22-32-109.1) and other related legislation. As a result, the CSSRC will continue to focus resources and efforts on accessing technology, online training and enhanced electronic delivery of resources to Colorado stakeholders.

The awareness of the link between a positive school climate (including bullying and harassment prevention) and academic achievement, knowledge of effective school-wide approaches, and evidence-based strategies to address these and other school climate issues while encouraging schools to engage students, will continue. The Center has actively engaged with others and will remain at the forefront in 2013, bringing resources, training and experts to help Colorado schools comply with HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools) and SB12-046 (Discipline in Public Schools).

Continued collaborations between state agencies and community partnerships are essential to coordinated efforts toward school safety in our state. The CSSRC will continue evaluation of statewide needs and services provided and work with partners to be responsive to the changing needs of schools and youth. The Center will continue to foster relationships, gather and distribute resources to assist schools in their efforts to improve school climate and overall safety and be available to any schools needing the Center's services.

For additional information, please view the CSSRC website at
www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter or www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC
Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety
303-239-4435
CDPS_School_Safety_Center@state.co.us

LEGISLATIVE REPORT 2012

The attached report outlines the activities, efficacy, and value of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC – also referred to as the "Center"), as created by CRS §§24-33.5-1801, et seq. This report will provide details as to the Center's operation, including the Advisory Board, pilot sites, training and resources available to schools, the important issues being studied by work groups created through the Center and the significant outreach and collaborations that have been created to enhance school safety in Colorado. Additional information may be obtained through the CSSRC website: http://www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter or http://www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC.

OPERATION OF THE CENTER

The creating legislation (CRS §§24-33.5-1801, et seq.), shown in Appendix A, outlined formation of an Advisory Board for the School Safety Resource Center to make recommendations to the Center. The legislation also identified the membership and terms of office. The Advisory Board began with 13 members, as provided in statute, who were appointed during 2008. Four additional members have been added at the recommendation of the Board and approved by the Executive Director of the Department of Public Safety. At the time of this report, the 17 current members of the Advisory Board and one liaison are as follows:

Advisory Board

NAME	REPRESENTING	POSITION	ORGANIZATION	APPOINTED BY
Larry Borland	School District Administrators Responsible for Safety and Security at a School District	Chief of Security	Academy School District 20	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Steven Fast	Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool	Director	Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Stan Garnett	District Attorney	District Attorney	District Attorney's Office, 20th Judicial District	Governor
James Glasmann	Professional Expert in School Security	School Resource Officer	Arvada Police Department	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Jamie Haukeness	Building Level Administrator Responsible for Safety and Administration	Principal	Cortez Middle School	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Jarrod Hindman	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)	Program Director	Office of Suicide Prevention, CDPHE	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

NAME	REPRESENTING	POSITION	ORGANIZATION	APPOINTED BY
Ellen Kelty	Behavioral Health Treatment Expert	School Suicide Prevention Specialist	Denver Public Schools	Commissioner of Education
Bob Kraus	Community Colleges	Police Chief	Red Rocks Community College	Executive Director, Colorado Community College System
Jeff Marshall	Classroom Level Teacher	Teacher	Galileo School of Math and Science, D11 School District	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Stan Paprocki	Division of Mental Health	Director	Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Human Services
Susan Payne	Department of Law	Executive Director	Safe2Tell, Colorado Department of Law	Attorney General
Joe Roy	State Universities	Chief	University Police, University of Colorado	Executive Director, Commission on Higher Education
Jeanne Smith	Department of Public Safety	Director	Division of Criminal Justice, Colorado Department of Public Safety	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
Erin Sullivan	Department of Education	Statewide Coordinator	Office of Federal Programs Administration, CDE	Commissioner of Education
Kay Trotter	Parents' Organization	Vice President for Programs	Colorado PTA	Governor
Rob Urbach	Law Enforcement Professional	Sheriff	Phillips County	Executive Director, Colorado Department of Public Safety
George Welsh	School Administrator	Superintendent	Center School District 26JT	Commissioner of Education

CSSRC Advisory Board Liaison

NAME	POSITION	ORGANIZATION
Jim Engelker	CASB Board of Directors	Colorado Association of School Boards (Adams 50 School District)

The board meets four times during each year. The board receives regular updates on the activities of the Center and board members have provided significant input and advice about the Center's activities, its mission and vision. The Advisory Board approved operating By-Laws on June 1, 2010. All Advisory Board meeting agendas, notes and Advisory Board By-Laws are posted on the CSSRC website: http://www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter or http://www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC.

Vision and Mission of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center

The vision and mission of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center align with the legislative directive and were confirmed by the Advisory Board in March 2009. The three-part vision of the School Safety Resource Center is to support ***safe and secure learning environments, positive school climates, and early intervention services for youth in Colorado***.

The mission of the Center is to assist educators, students, parents, emergency responders, and community organizations to create safe, positive and successful school environments for all Colorado students in pre-K-12 and higher education schools. The Center assists schools in preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from all types of emergencies and crises. The Center provides resources, training, consultation, and technical assistance to foster safe, positive, and successful learning environments where early intervention occurs to prevent crises.

The mission of the Center, as defined in legislation, is significant and wide reaching. During the 2011-12 school year there were over 854,000 students enrolled in K-12 schools in our state, from 178 school districts. The state has approximately 1,787 total K-12 schools and 25 schools under the Charter School Institute. The Colorado Department of Education has identified 135 of the school districts (75.4%) as being located in outlying towns or rural settings. The CSSRC is of particular assistance to these smaller districts and charter schools by providing needed services and resources. In the Colorado higher education system, there are over 470 institutions educating approximately 400,000 students. Because of necessary budget cuts, the Center's staff size has been reduced from what was contemplated in the original fiscal note. Thus, the Advisory Board has prioritized the K-12 mission of the Center during this phase of operation, while understanding the need to expand to pre-K and higher education when there is available capacity within the Center.

Staff of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center

At capacity, the Center operates with a staff of four. Linda Kanan, PhD, retired from her position as the first Center Director effective December 1, 2011. After a lengthy recruitment process, Christine R. Harms, MS, the first Outreach Consultant for the Center, was appointed Director on January 23, 2012. As Director, she is responsible to supervise and direct all activities, programs, budget and personnel issues of the Center and reports directly to the Deputy Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Public Safety. After Ms. Harms' appointment as Director, the position of Outreach Consultant was filled by Michael Lythgoe, MA, from June 1, 2012, to November 26, 2012. The Outreach Consultant (GPIII) provides phone and direct consultation with schools and other stakeholders, training and workshops on topics of high interest and need, establishment and maintenance of networks and ongoing collaborations for the CSSRC work.

The Center also has a School Safety Resource Specialist (GPII) who provides for the identification and acquisition of resources, consultation about those resources, and assists with planning and delivery of school safety trainings and workshops. This position was vacant from November 1, 2011, until March 9, 2012. Alice Huyler was promoted to Resource Specialist after having served as the Administrative Assistant from September 2011 until her promotion. The current Administrative Assistant (AAIII), Bridget O'Dell, provides a wide variety of general support for the Center and staff, including identification and ordering of resources, planning for meetings and trainings, creating materials, maintaining communication with the listserv members, and supporting the Center's fiscal accountability through budgetary management. Ms. O'Dell was hired on August 1, 2012.

Consequently, for five months of the last calendar year, the Center operated with only two staff members and was not fully staffed until August. This reduction in staff is reflected in some of the outcome data for the calendar year, but due to a dedicated staff, not as significantly as might have been expected. All staff members bring excellent credentials to support the mission of the Center and have engaged in on-going professional development to respond to requests for resources and consultation.

Funding

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center's FY 13 appropriation is $350,169 (General Fund). Reductions have occurred since FY 09 that eliminated a 1.0 FTE position and reduced available funds for research and evaluation and for general operation of the Center. Legislation during 2010 (House Bill 10-1336) created a school safety center cash fund and authorized the Department to solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations and charge fees to attendees of training programs. To this date, only minimal training fees have been collected from out-of-state attendees at trainings. The Center has actively worked with a variety of partnering agencies and organizations supporting school safety to provide resources and trainings at no cost to Colorado stakeholders. The first foundation grant was awarded to the Center in 2012 from the Gill Foundation (please see page 11).

Additional Personal Services

Interagency Agreement with Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence – University of Colorado at Boulder

An Interagency Agreement had existed since the Center's creation between the Colorado School Safety Resource Center and the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, Safe Communities ~ Safe Schools Project, University of Colorado at Boulder (CSPV-CU) until June 2012. Under the Interagency Agreement, the two entities (CSSRC and CSPV-CU) agreed to work in a cooperative and coordinated effort for joint responsibilities and resources for the benefit of Colorado schools. This included but was not limited to: publication of the Colorado Safe Schools Newsletter, planning of regional school safety trainings, and research and development services to the CSSRC for the Pilot Site Project. Budget reductions have impacted research and development services since 2008. CSPV-CU's consultation and evaluation services, as well as its involvement with the pilot sites over the past three years were scaled back due to funding restrictions. The contract between the Center and CSPV-CU ended on June 30, 2012, with the conclusion of the Pilot Site Project.

Research and development services provided to the CSSRC from CSPV-CU included:
- Development of an evaluation plan for the Pilot Site Project as directed in CRS §§24-33.5-1801, et seq.
- Provision of services related to the Pilot Site Project, and under the direction of the CSSRC, including assistance with pilot site selection and readiness, phone conferences, site visits, and ongoing consultation and planning services to the sites and to CSSRC.
- Conducting the research and assessment phase of three pilot site district projects and their designated schools, including:
  - Assistance with administration of school climate surveys.
  - Provision of reports of survey results to pilot sites and CSSRC.
  - Assistance with strategic planning and research of programs and strategies for pilot sites.
  - Assistance in development of evaluation tools to measure project progress and outcomes and to compile data for review by CSSRC at the end of the contract term.

ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTER

During 2012, the Center has maintained fidelity to its mission by providing consultation, technical assistance, resources, and trainings to school safety partners. Topic-specific work groups, facilitated by CSSRC staff, continue to address issues of need and concern. The Center's collaborations and outreach continue to grow, and the Center responded to an identified need and received its first foundation grant to continue to respond to this need. The details of the Center's 2012 activities follow:

The Bullying Prevention Institutes and the Gill Foundation Grant

The CSSRC has worked collaboratively with the Gill Foundation and various other stakeholders since the formation of the Bullying/Harassment Prevention Work Group in December of 2010. When HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools) passed, the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and the Colorado School Safety Resource Center were required to make available evidence-based resources on their two websites. Both CSSRC and CDE felt a further responsibility to educate school personnel on HB11-1254 and best practices for creating positive school climates.

This lead to a collaboration between CDE, CSSRC and the Colorado Legacy Foundation (CLF) to develop a one-day training institute for school personnel to educate school staff on the elements of the new law, best practices in bullying prevention and building a positive school climate, as well as best practices in intervention strategies. Because of the even higher rates of bullying/harassment against special populations such as students in special education, minorities, those identified or perceived as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or questioning, the Anti-Defamation League and One Colorado were invited to participate with CDE, CSSRC and CLF in presenting the institutes. Two workshops in January and March of 2012 followed two that were offered in 2011. Evaluation results from these four workshops were that 95% of the participants agreed or strongly agreed that the overall training was beneficial with 96% agreeing or strongly agreeing that their students would benefit from the learning gained at the workshops.

In April of 2012, the Gill Foundation invited the Center to submit a grant application to continue these workshops in the 2012-13 school year with the Center serving as the lead organization on the grant. The Center submitted the application in July and the grant was awarded in September 2012 in the amount of $53,000 for one year. The grant will enable the Center to continue its work with the Colorado Department of Education, the Colorado Legacy Foundation, the Anti-Defamation League and One Colorado with a minimum of five Bullying Prevention Institutes this school year. One Bullying Prevention Institute was conducted on October 25, 2012, in Silverthorne, Colorado. Others are scheduled for Fort Morgan, Colorado Springs, La Junta and Durango. The goal is to educate at least three hundred more school personnel particularly in the rural districts across the state.

Outreach

Outreach by the CSSRC to various stakeholder groups has continued during 2012 including providing one-day symposiums on the separate topics of suicide, bullying prevention and substance abuse; a range of conference presentations and displays; participating in various agency meetings and committees; monthly E-Updates to listserv members; direct mailings; on-site visits; and contacts through phone and email.

Recognizing that administrative changes take place, direct mailings were sent to all superintendents across the state at the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year. This direct mail outreach is part of the ongoing strategy to increase knowledge about the Colorado School Safety Resource Center and the services it can offer to schools. This mailing included both email and direct mail letters (see Appendix B). The Center's direct mailing for 2012 included:

- Letters sent to 178 superintendents including the new CSSRC brochure.
- The mailing also included flyer information about CSSRC upcoming trainings and the newly created online courses for school personnel.
- Email correspondence to district superintendents in order to facilitate forwarding of materials to building level administrators.

The CSSRC has also continued contact with the Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES) across Colorado. These activities for 2012 included a training in Campo, Colorado on February 8, 2012, in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Education; a meeting with Executive Director Tim Sanger of the Northeast BOCES in Haxtun, Colorado on August 22, 2012, and two trainings in cooperation with the San Juan BOCES on June 7, 2012, and November 1, 2012.

Colorado Safe Schools Newsletter

Until the expiration of the interagency agreement with the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado at Boulder, the CSSRC continued to provide paper versions of the Colorado Safe Schools Newsletters with CSPV. In 2012, two issues were published (February and May) bringing the total to 15 newsletters since 2008. The Center now provides all information electronically to the CSSRC listserv members. Appendix C contains the two newsletters printed in 2012.
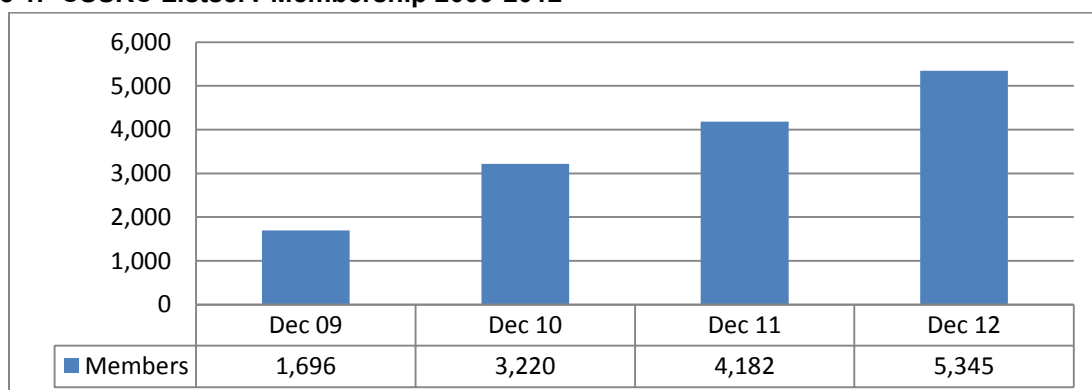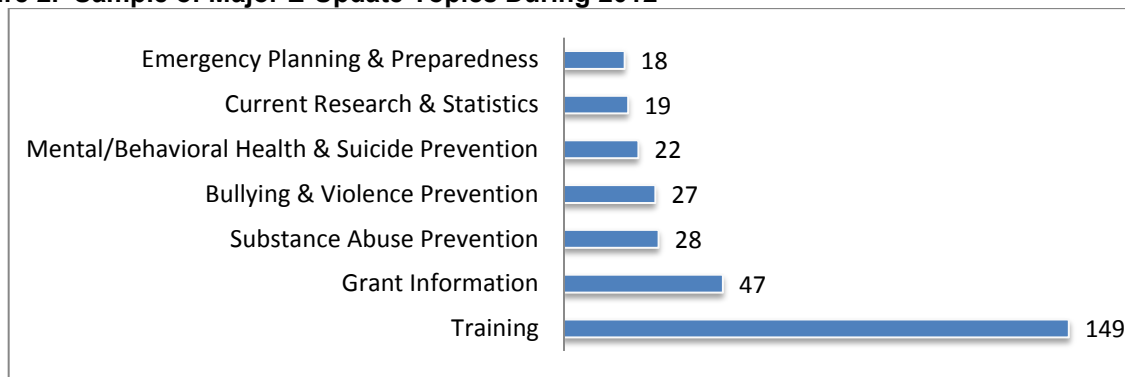
Newsletter topics included:

- Disbursement of School Safety and Substance Abuse Prevention Grants and Center Updates (February 2012).
- Upgrades to the CSPV School Climate Survey Website (May 2012).

CSSRC E-Update

A listserv for the CSSRC was created in August 2009 and has a current database containing over 5,345 email addresses from various stakeholder groups and school safety partners. The membership of the CSSRC listserv has continued to increase over the past year from 4,182 in 2011 to 5,345 in December 2012. The listserv group receives monthly electronic newsletter updates (E-Update) from the Center that include important announcements, upcoming training opportunities, and new resources related to prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery efforts in schools, including potential grant funding resources.

Figure 1. CSSRC Listserv Membership 2009-2012

	Dec 09	Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12
Members	1,696	3,220	4,182	5,345

Figure 2. Sample of Major E-Update Topics During 2012

Topic	Count
Emergency Planning & Preparedness	18
Current Research & Statistics	19
Mental/Behavioral Health & Suicide Prevention	22
Bullying & Violence Prevention	27
Substance Abuse Prevention	28
Grant Information	47
Training	149

CSSRC Twitter

To supplement the Center's monthly E-Update communication with additional timely information about training, events, resources, and funding opportunities, a School Safety Twitter account was created in 2012. The School Resource Specialist sent the initial Twitter message on April 4, 2012, after which over 359 messages were posted through December 2012. Currently 45 people interested in Colorado school safety follow the CSSRC Twitter account, which can be found at http://twitter.com/CoSSRC. Efforts to increase the number of Twitter followers will continue in 2013.

Collaboration

The CSSRC believes that working with other agencies with similar missions is vital to the Center's mission especially in these difficult economic times. The Center is proud of the interfaces and partnerships it has developed and will continue this effort. Currently, the CSSRC participates in regular meetings as a participant, active member, and a school safety voice with the following statewide groups:

1. *Colorado Association of School Resource Officers (CASRO)*
    The Colorado Association of School Resource Officers is made up of school resource officers and other law enforcement personnel and affiliated partners. The CSSRC has affiliate membership with this state organization, has presented at their annual trainings and has observed law enforcement trainings for school response.

2. *Colorado Association of School Safety and Law Enforcement Officers (CASSLEO)*
    The Colorado Association of School Safety and Law Enforcement Officers is comprised of school safety and security directors from many of the larger front-range school districts. The CSSRC is an active participant in monthly meetings.

3. *The Colorado Children and Youth Information Sharing Collaborative (CCYIS)*
    This collaborative includes the Department of Education, Department of Human Services, Department of Public Health & Environment, Department of Public Safety, Colorado Judicial Department and the Governor's Office of Information Technology. This committee has invited and welcomed input from the CSSRC Director and other school personnel to assist in developing strategies for sharing information to optimize services available and delivered to children, youth and families in Colorado, including those offered in schools.

4. *Colorado Connections for Healthy Schools Initiative*
This initiative encourages the enhancement and growth of Coordinated School Health and Safety in Colorado and recently presented the new Health and Physical Education Standards for Colorado schools to the group. Many of the issues on which the CSSRC trains and consults to schools include topics aligned with the new standards.

5. *Colorado Crisis Education and Response Network (CoCERN)*
CoCERN is a statewide asset-based community partnership formed to deliver effective, efficient and professional disaster behavioral health services. CSSRC staff attends meetings held quarterly. The Center has been involved with this group since its inception.

6. *Colorado Department of Education (CDE)*
The CSSRC continues to interface with CDE in a variety of ways:
   - CDE was a collaborator with CSSRC, the Colorado Legacy Foundation, the Anti-Defamation League and One Colorado on the Bullying Prevention Institutes in Aurora (1/25/2012), Thornton (3/1/2012), and Silverthorne (10/25/2012).
   - CDE is also a partner with CSSRC on the Gill Foundation grant to continue the Bullying Prevention Institutes in 2013.
   - The CSSRC, along with the Department of Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health, also worked with CDE to offer Youth Substance Abuse Symposiums in Fort Collins (5/3/2012), Pueblo (5/10/2012), and Thornton (9/27/2012).
   - The Center joined with CDE and CDPHE's Office of Suicide Prevention to offer a Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium in Aurora (11/29/2012).

7. *The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH)*
The Colorado Division of Behavioral Health is the state authority for mental health and substance abuse services. The Colorado School Safety Resource Center continues to have a strong relationship with The Division of Behavioral Health. The previously referenced Youth Substance Abuse Symposium was offered through a joint effort with the Division of Behavioral Health.

8. *The Colorado Law Enforcement Officers' Association (CLEOA)*
The Colorado Law Enforcement Officers' Association's goals include advancing all areas of the law enforcement profession to the highest degree possible, elevating the standards of the profession and its members, and encouraging cooperation and networking among law enforcement officials throughout the nation. The CSSRC has an affiliate membership with this organization and has attended some of their trainings. These trainings have included illegal technology use and the incidents of "sexting" with youth and students in schools.

9. *The Colorado Legacy Foundation (CLF)*
The Colorado Legacy Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) that serves as a partner to the Colorado Department of Education in the effective implementation of public policy related to education. The Center is working closely with CLF and CDE to deliver statewide training on bullying/harassment prevention (Bullying Prevention Institutes) and to fulfill CSSRC's responsibilities under HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools). The CLF has also recently completed a School Climate Survey toolkit with partnership support from the CSSRC.

10. *Community Preparedness Advisory Council (CPAC)*
CPAC brings together government and non-government entities to participate in community preparedness planning and program development that was facilitated by the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. The Governor's Office of Homeland Security was abolished by an executive order and the responsibilities were realigned with the new Office of Preparedness within the Division of Homeland Security at the Colorado Department of Public Safety as of October 18,

2011 (restructured and renamed the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, as of 7/1/12).   More than 20 state, regional, and local government and non-governmental organizations make up the council. The CSSRC is a member of this group and contributes feedback related to schools' emergency planning across Colorado.

11. *Division of Fire Prevention and Control*
With the new changes in organizational structure in the Department of Public Safety, the Division of Fire Safety has changed its name to the Division of Fire Prevention and Control. The CSSRC maintains a professional relationship with this agency, particularly as issues related to schools arise that offer opportunities regarding building safety and emergency preparedness.

12. *Safe Routes to School (SRTS)*
The Colorado Safe Routes to School program administered by the Colorado Department of Transportation enables community leaders, schools and parents to improve safety and encourage more children, including children with disabilities, to walk and bicycle safely to school. In the process, programs are working to reduce traffic congestion and improve health and the environment, making communities livable for everyone. CSSRC staff has continued to follow the efforts of this program and attended the 2012 Safe Routes to School state network re-launch. Due to budget issues, this program has undergone some significant changes and funding challenges in recent years.

13. *State All Hazards Advisory Committee (SAHAC)*
SAHAC was formed in 2004 to provide advice to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, the Colorado Department of Public Safety, and other public safety agencies on matters related to all-hazards emergency management. This committee also provides input to the Senior Advisory Council (SAC) on matters pertaining to emergency management statewide. Meetings are held six times per year, and the CSSRC was made an official representative of schools at the November 13, 2009, meeting. Center staff members continue to attend these meetings and offer input related to school all-hazard emergency planning across Colorado.

Additional Collaborations

The Center continues to foster working relationships with other statewide agencies in an effort to promote its mission and supply resources to schools. In 2012, new collaborations were forged with the following:

Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB)
The CSSRC had the opportunity to present along with CASB, CDE, CLF, ADL and Facing History and Ourselves at the Colorado Association of School Executives' (CASE) Educational Leadership Pre-Convention full-day workshop in Breckenridge (7/24/2012). The Center also presented with these partners a conference session addressing positive school climates, changes in discipline, harassment and bullying policies and practices at the CASE convention.   This work was supported by a grant from the Gill Foundation.

The Pre-Convention workshop noted above was repeated at the CASB annual convention on November 29, 2012, again with the collaboration of CASB, CDE, CLF, ADL and Facing History and Ourselves. This presentation was also supported by a grant from the Gill Foundation.

The Center had an opportunity to bring a newly created, no-cost training on Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools supported by the U.S. Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management Technical Assistance Center to Colorado. CASB worked with the Center in supporting this training on August 16, 2012, with the input of Michelle Murphy, Esq. CASB Director of Member Legal Resources to update participants on Colorado law.

Colorado Association of School Executives (CASE)

The Center participated in two presentations at the CASE School Executives' conference in the summer (please see above) and CASE personnel collaborated on the Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools training by alerting their members to the training.

The Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool (CSDSIP)

The Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool also assisted the Center and CASB by providing space for the Adult Sexual Misconduct training in August 2012. Fifty school and agency personnel including staff from CSDSIP were trained representing more than 25 different entities.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council (JJDP)

The Center's Director was invited to participate in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Council, having been appointed by the Governor until July 31, 2016. The JJDP Council serves as the State Advisory Group (SAG) as defined in Title II of the federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDPA) of 2002. The JJDPA's goals are to prevent and reduce juvenile delinquency and improve the juvenile justice system, by ensuring appropriate sanctions and services, due process, proper treatment and safe confinement for juveniles who are involved in the juvenile justice system. The Center's Director also serves on the Youth with Low Risk High Needs subcommittee of the JJDP Council.

The OMNI Institute's Special Project Advisory Board

The CSSRC's Director was asked to serve on the advisory board established by the OMNI Institute to investigate the magnitude of bullying and its potential impact on individuals with developmental disabilities. This is a project of the Colorado Developmental Disabilities Council and the Colorado Department of Human Services facilitated by OMNI. The Center was invited so that consistent messages will be developed for both youth and adults who may be the victims of bullying and harassment.

Consultation

Since its creation, the Center has continued to receive many calls and requests from various stakeholders around the state, as well as nationally and internationally. Specifically, more than 945 direct consultation calls and emails were answered during the 2012 calendar year regarding a wide range of school safety issues and requests for information. Figure 3 below illustrates the number of consultation calls in comparison with previous years. Although not as large a percentage increase as in previous years, with a reduced work force this calendar year, Colorado schools were well served. These calls are primarily a direct result of multiple outreach and marketing efforts of all staff, the trainings, newsletters, mailings, E-Updates, website, and through referrals from board members and others knowledgeable about the CSSRC's resources and expertise.
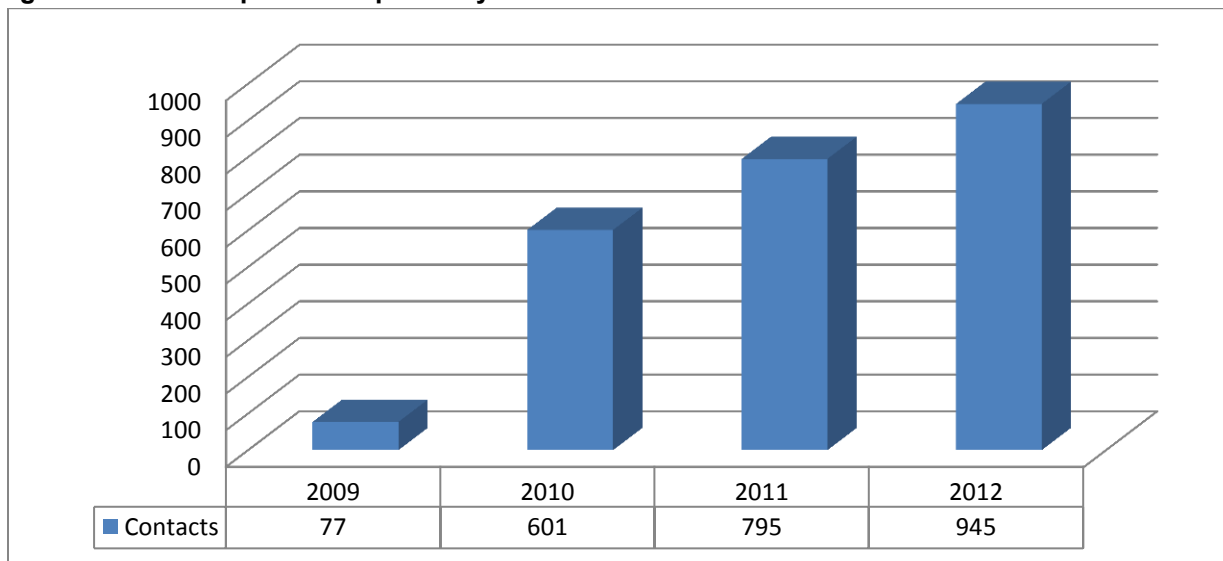
Forty-four percent (44%) of the consultation calls have been from school or school district personnel (Figure 4), with many of the remaining calls from law enforcement personnel, community mental health professionals, mental health personnel, or parents. Figure 5 summarizes the consultation issues and question topics, demonstrating the need for the variety of resources offered. These data also

demonstrate the increased outreach by the Center staff and the increased knowledge of our consumers about the services that can be provided. Colorado schools and communities are clearly using the services the Center offers.

Unfortunately, tragedy struck both Colorado with the Aurora theater shooting in July and the Connecticut school shooting in December. The Center responded with a number of consultations with the Aurora Public Schools and subsequent trainings on trauma-informed classrooms and secondary traumatic stress for school staff. We continue to schedule workshops in the district to assist in the healing process.
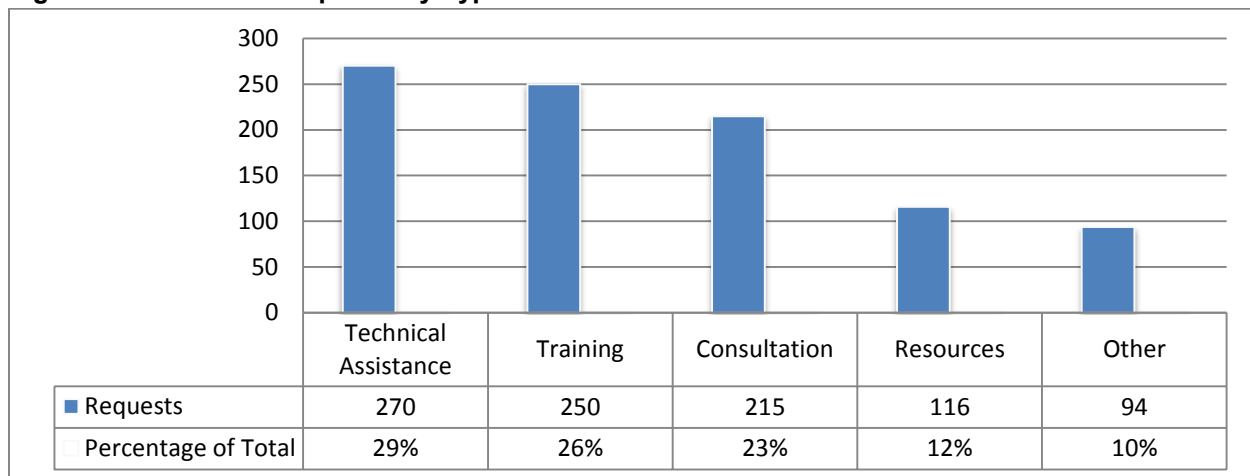
When the elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut suffered their losses, it heightened the concern of schools across the country including Colorado. The Center responded immediately in collaboration with the CDPS' Colorado Information Analysis Center and issued a Nationwide Resource Bulletin entitled, Helping Your Community to Feel Safe. The CSSRC followed with a message to everyone on the Center's listserv with resources for schools and parents and a reminder that we are available to assist with planning and drills. A number of schools have requested the Center's assistance since the event and there has been a marked increase in the number of website visits.

Figure 3. CSSRC Specific Requests by Year 2009-2012

	2009	2010	2011	2012
Contacts	77	601	795	945

Figure 4. Position of Person Making Request

Position	Count
Other (Parents, Media, Community Mental Health Personnel, Vendors)	265
District/School Administrator	143
School Counselor, Psychologist, Social Worker	116
Legislature, Other State Agencies	109
Teachers and Other Educational Personnel	26
School/District Safety & Security Staff	25
Emergency Responders, Law Enforcement, SRO	18

Figure 5. Number of Requests by Type

	Technical Assistance	Training	Consultation	Resources	Other
■ Requests	270	250	215	116	94
□ Percentage of Total	29%	26%	23%	12%	10%

Resources

Website

The CSSRC website has been designed as a state information and resource collective, offering a variety of support to a wide audience of pre-K-12 schools and higher education institutions and the parents, communities and organizations that support safe and positive school environments in Colorado. The website's professional offerings include current best practices, evidence-based resources, practical applications, trainings, and educational opportunities, organized using the U.S. Department of Education and FEMA's four-phase model of emergency planning (prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery).

Continual updating of current resources and trainings occurs several times per month through the Center's internal research and information management. Highlights of the website include:
- Colorado state and federal links to resources
- CSSRC listserv sign-up
- Resources outlined according to the four-phase model of emergency planning
- Links to Colorado school safety legislation
- Training opportunities for school safety staff
- Grant opportunities supporting safe schools in Colorado
- Links to agencies related to school safety efforts
- Current research and statistics
- New highlighted topics and features updated weekly

Website Update and New Analytics Tracking Software

CSSRC joined the Colorado.gov internet domain in July 2012. The Statewide Internet Portal Authority (SIPA) was created in 2004 by the Colorado State Legislature (CRS §24-37.7-113) to provide efficient and effective e-Government services for eligible governmental entities and citizens by modern business practices and innovative technology solutions. The CSSRC website can now be accessed at either www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter or www.Colorado.gov/CSSRC.

Transition to the new domain allowed CSSRC to reorganize the school safety website to be both more intuitive and helpful for the end user, and easier to maintain for CSSRC staff. SIPA offers Google Analytics to track website traffic, which is different from the software CSSRC had previously used. Because Google Analytics counts data differently from the previous software, analytics of the old and new websites are not comparable.

Website Use Data

A website tracking and analysis program provides historical data and evaluation of the site's usability. Monthly website use tracking and analysis profiles are collected. The software provides tracking of visits to the website, pages viewed, and information about downloaded materials (see Figures 6 and 7). From January 1st to July 18th, the previous website and tracking software was in place. On July 18th, the new website launched publicly, while the new analytics software could not be activated until July 24th.

Website usage increased significantly (55%) from 2009 to the beginning of 2012. Unfortunately, comparisons between previous years and the second half of 2012 are not valid due to the change in analytics software. However, increased usage of the website can be inferred from the number of calls for consultations, requests for training and documents downloaded from the website. In addition to state and national users, the CSSRC website has been visited by people from across the world. The top five countries using the website outside the U.S.A. include China, Canada, the United Kingdom, Philippines, and Australia (see Figure 8).

Figure 6.—Top 5 Most Viewed Pages of the CSSRC Website, Beyond the Home Page

Page Name
CSSRC Website Resource Index
School Safety Trainings
About Us
CSSRC In-Person Trainings
CSSRC Online Trainings

Figure 7. Top 5 Most Downloaded Documents from the CSSRC Website

File Name
Monitoring the Future: National Survey Results on Drug Use, 1975-2011
CSSRC Essentials of School Threat Assessment: Preventing Targeted School Violence
CSSRC Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education: Colorado School Resource Guide
CSSRC Resources for Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention
Various CSSRC Training Flyers

Figure 8. Top 5 Countries Outside of the U.S. and States Outside of Colorado Visiting the CSSRC Website
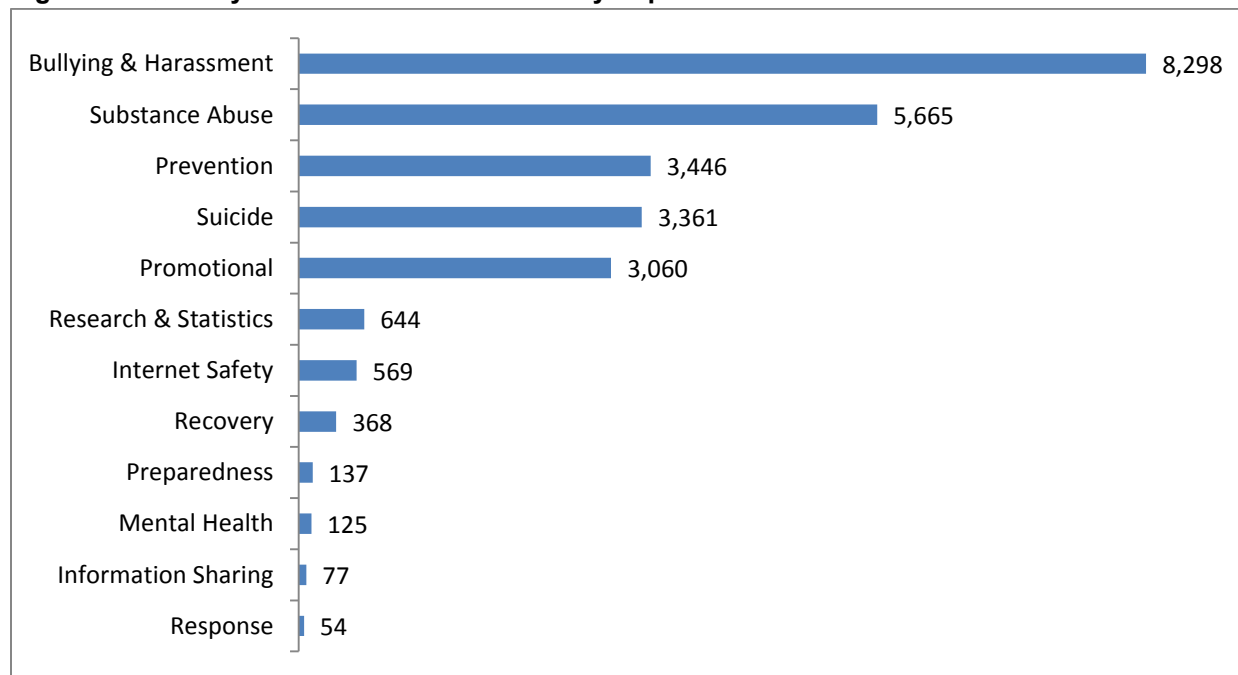
Top Countries Visiting CSSRC Website	Top States Visiting CSSRC Website
China	California
Canada	Alabama
United Kingdom	Maryland
Philippines	Texas
Australia	New York

Resource Acquisition and Distribution Highlights

The CSSRC staff continues to spend considerable time in research, review, and evaluation of available materials and resources for distribution to stakeholders and to support school safety efforts. The types of media and methods of distribution are critically considered when researching materials to support safe and positive schools. In addition, evaluation includes the source of the material, the date of publication, and the quality of the information.

An important part of the CSSRC mission is to provide resources to various groups about school safety-related issues and best practices. During 2012, the CSSRC researched, acquired, and then distributed over 25,000 hard copies of 320 school safety-related resources (variety of topics) to stakeholder groups and training participants. Although resources were not tracked during 2011 because of staff shortage, 2012 resource distribution increased by 50% over the 2010 distribution of 14,600 copies of 100 resources. These materials were either created by the CSSRC or obtained from different state and national agencies or organizations. Materials are distributed through the E-Update, at conferences, in displays, or at trainings and at meetings across the state and occasionally mailed directly to a school in response to a specific need. Figure 9 summarizes the distribution of hard copies of resources by topic.

Figure 9. Quantity of Resources Distributed by Topic in 2012

Resources Created and Updated by CSSRC in 2012
- Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education: Colorado School Resource Guide
- Bullying and Harassment Resource Links for Schools
- Bullying and Cyberbullying Resource Links for Parents
- Resources for Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention
- Substance Abuse Prevention Resources Links for Schools
- Substance Abuse Prevention Resources Links for Parents

On training evaluation forms participants always express their appreciation for the resources provided by the School Safety Resource Center.

Training

Topic Centered Trainings

In an effort to provide training opportunities on school safety issues across the state in accordance with its legislative directive, the Colorado School Safety Resource Center has partnered with other state agencies to support topic-focused trainings. These trainings were conducted based on requests from school personnel on selected topics and hosted in multiple locations to allow for maximum attendance from various school districts with limited budgets and funding for travel. These smaller trainings were designed as one-day events to support school personnel attendance and with the approval of the CSSRC's Advisory Board.

Bullying Prevention Institute – January 25 (Aurora), March 1 (Thornton), October 25 (Silverthorne)

Colorado school concerns expressed to the CSSRC, as well as increased national attention focused on bullying incidents across the country, led the Center to facilitate a working group of stakeholders to address this issue, beginning in December 2010. (Please see the Bullying/Harassment Prevention Work Group on page 28.) With the passage of Colorado HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools), the CSSRC and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) were tasked with providing evidence-based information for schools via the web, along with additional responsibilities assigned to CDE. This led to a new joint effort involving the CSSRC, CDE and the Colorado Legacy Foundation to educate school staff on the elements of the new law, best practices in bullying prevention and building a positive school climate, as well as best practices in intervention strategies. A one-day training institute was developed to cover those topics. Additional workshops during the one-day training focused on biased-based bullying, with invited presenters from One Colorado and the Anti-Defamation League, and an additional workshop focused on cyberbullying presented by the CSSRC staff. The Gill Foundation provided limited support for the Aurora and Thornton presentations.

As a result of these events, 479 people were trained in 2012 and have received important information on how to create a positive school climate and how to prevent and appropriately respond to bullying in schools. Combined with previous years' events, 693 people have been trained in bullying prevention to date. Overall, 96% of evaluation respondents agree or strongly agree that the information presented and the overall training were beneficial. Ninety-eight percent (98%) agree or strongly agree that the resources distributed were helpful. Ninety-six (96%) percent agree or strongly agree that their students will benefit from what they learned at this training.

Included as part of the resources provided and distributed by the Center at these trainings are the CSSRC *Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education – Colorado School Resource Guide,* as well as a number of valuable resources from the U.S. Department of Education. The CSSRC Resource Guide is also available on the Center's website.

In September of 2012, The Gill Foundation awarded the CSSRC a grant as lead agency to continue offering the Bullying Prevention Institutes in additional communities in 2012 and into 2013 (see page 11). The institute in Silverthorne, as well as a minimum of four additional institutes, will be completely supported by the Gill Foundation grant once the spending authority issues are resolved to be able to expend these funds.

Youth Substance Abuse Symposium – May 3 (Ft. Collins), May 10 (Pueblo), September 27 (Thornton)

School personnel ranked highly the importance of receiving current substance abuse information and training in the needs survey conducted by the CSSRC. Because of this feedback, the CSSRC created a partnership with the Colorado Department of Education and the Colorado Department of Human

Services, Division of Behavioral Health (DBH).   The Division of Behavioral Health works with other agencies to execute the State's federal responsibilities as the State Mental Health Authority and the Single State Substance Abuse Authority. With the support of CDE and DBH, the CSSRC offered current information and resources to school personnel regarding the issues of substance abuse affecting youth and schools.   The keynote presenter was Paula Riggs, MD, from the University of Colorado who discussed Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Mental Health Disorders.

On May 3, 2012, 114 people attended the Symposium in Ft. Collins,.   Attendees represented 39 schools/districts/agencies and organizations from 15 counties and 23 cities throughout the state.   Of those who submitted an evaluation, 92% rated the information and resources provided as good or excellent. One hundred percent (100%) of respondents rated the training overall as good or excellent.

The second Youth Substance Abuse Symposium was held in Pueblo on May 10, 2012, with 102 attending. Attendees represented 71 schools/districts/agencies and organizations from 12 counties and 23 cities throughout the state.   Of those who submitted an evaluation, 91% rated the information presented as good or excellent, while 95% rated the resources distributed as good or excellent. Ninety-three (93%) of respondents rated the training overall as good or excellent.

Lastly, on September 27, 2012, in Thornton, a third symposium was held with 119 people attending. Attendees represented 56 schools/districts/agencies and organizations from 18 counties and 35 cities throughout the state. Again, participants were pleased with the training with 100% of participants rating the information presented as good to excellent. When asked what information would be most useful at their site, responses included: "The effects of early drug/alcohol use and its effects on brain development /delay." "It's really key having the knowledge/information/visuals about student usage and trends."

Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools: Prevention and Management – August 16 (Centennial)

The U.S. Department of Education's Readiness and Emergency Management Technical Assistance Center (REMS TA Center) joined with the Seattle Public School District to create a training to prevent and respond to adult sexual misconduct with students in schools. A collaborative effort with the Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool (CSDSIP), the Colorado Association of School Boards (CASB) and the CSSRC supported the offering of this newly created training in Colorado. The training was offered in a train-the-trainer format and participants were given the resources and training to conduct this program with their own district staff.   CSSRC staff members were also trained to provide this program to other school districts as requested.

Fifty people attended this training in Centennial on August 16, 2012.   Attendees represented 25 schools/districts/agencies and organizations from 23 cities throughout the state. Evaluation results rated the training overall 4.84 out of 5 on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.

Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium – November 29 (Aurora)

Continuing the work from past years, the CSSRC, the Colorado Department of Education and the Office of Suicide Prevention (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment) offered the fourth Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium on November 29, 2012, in Aurora. One hundred sixteen people attended from 46 schools/districts/agencies and organizations covering 13 counties and 31 cities across the state.   This Symposium raises the total to over 646 people trained about youth suicide prevention, assessment and postvention practices for schools since 2010. Evaluation results rated the training overall 3.75 out of 4 on a scale of 1-4, with 4 being the highest.

As part of the resources provided by the Center and distributed at these trainings, CSSRC's *Resources for Suicide Prevention and Intervention* was given to all participants. The guide is also available on-line on the CSSRC website. The keynote presenter, Mary Margaret Kerr, EdD, from the University of Pittsburgh, presented Components of a Comprehensive School Approach specifically designed for school administrators that was live-streamed across the state.

The CSSRC, the CDE and the Office of Suicide Prevention at CDPHE are planning to continue and expand this important work with an annual workshop as well as additional online tools. Plans for another Symposium in 2013 are currently being made.

The total attendees at the various trainings in 2012 are summarized below in Figure 10:

Figure 10. Training Attendance Summary

TRAINING	# ATTENDED
Bullying Prevention Institute, Aurora 1/25/2012	202
Bullying Prevention Institute, Thornton 3/1/2012	199
Bullying Prevention Institute, Silverthorne 10/25/2012	78
Youth Substance Abuse Symposium, Ft. Collins 5/3/2012	114
Youth Substance Abuse Symposium, Pueblo 5/10/2012	102
Youth Substance Abuse Symposium, Thornton 9/27/2012	119
Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools: Prevention and Management, Train-the-Trainer, Centennial 8/16/2012	50
Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium, Aurora 11/29/2012	116
Online Course: Crisis Planning for an Off-Campus Event	44
Online Course: Bullying Prevention & Intervention Under Colorado Law	66
Total	**1,090**

Workshops Developed and Presented by CSSRC Staff

Online Course Development

The CSSRC developed and published their first two online trainings for school personnel in 2012. These online courses were produced with the specific intention of providing training to rural and outlying school districts and to support school personnel who are not able to travel to live trainings. These online courses can be counted as one hour of professional training and provide a printable certificate upon successful completion. Courses are hosted through the Colorado Train (CO.Train) system. The CO.Train system is a learning resource for professionals who protect the public's health. It is a free service of the Public Health Foundation. CO.Train, www.CO.train.org, is part of the newly expanded TrainingFinder Real-time Affiliate Integrated Network (TRAIN). The CO.Train system is managed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Please see page two of Appendix B which shows the Center's two online training courses.

- Crisis Planning for an Off-Campus Event (released July 18, 2012)
  CO Train Course ID: 1026872
  This course is designed to review best practices in responding to an off-campus crisis that affects a school (i.e. a car accident involving a student). The course is designed for school safety teams, administrators, school mental health professionals and teachers. Through the end of December, 44 people had completed this course. We continue to market these courses.

School personnel from 14 counties as diverse as La Plata, Logan, Prowers, and Weld spanning the state have participated in the course. Anonymous evaluation results reveal that 100% of respondents agree or strongly agree that their knowledge increased as a result of the training, they plan to use the information in their work, and the additional resources were helpful. Comments include, "*This course was helpful in my work,*" and *"Great course. Thanks!*"

- Bullying Prevention & Intervention Under Colorado Law (released August 3, 2012)
  CO Train Course ID: 1034235
  This course is designed as an overview of bullying and harassment in schools since the passage of HB11-1254. The course is designed for school safety teams, administrators, mental health professionals, teachers, and Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports teams. Through the end of December, 66 people had completed this course.
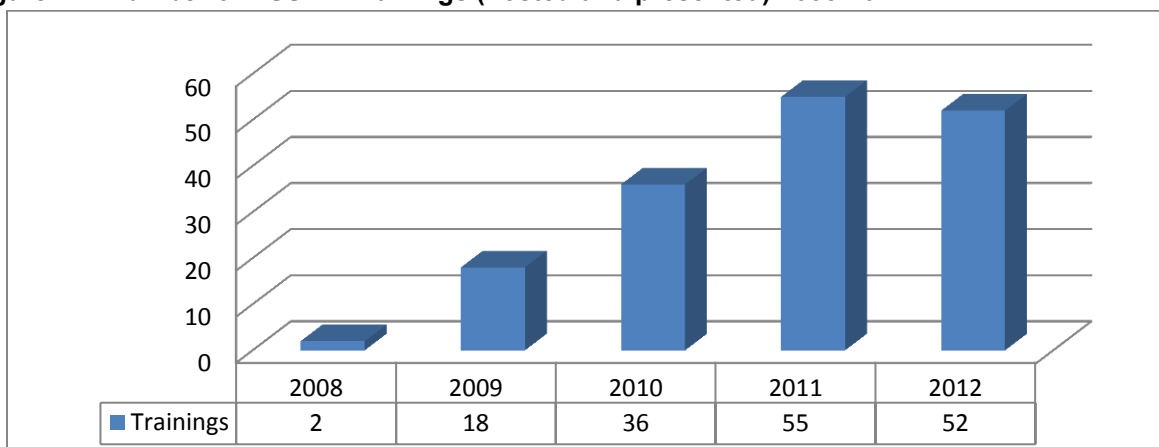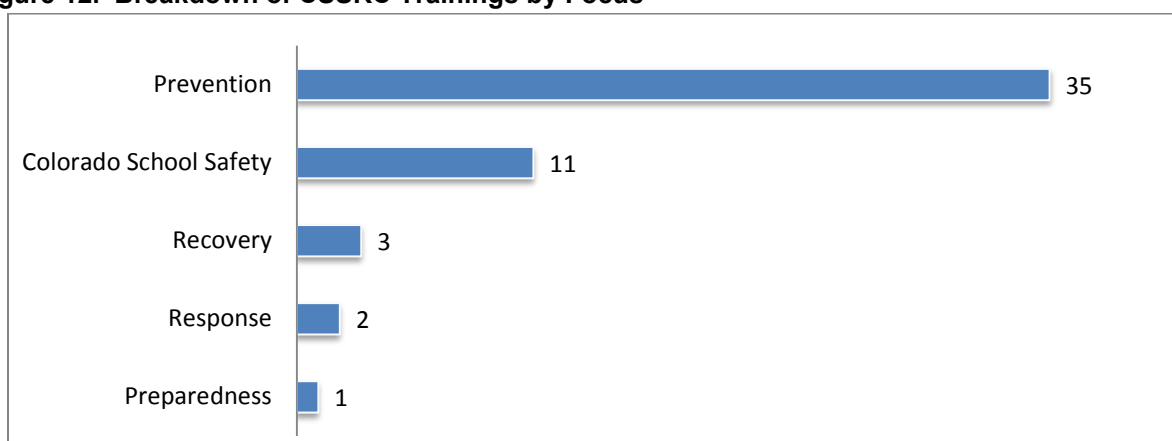
  Despite addressing bullying specifically under Colorado law, people from 11 states other than Colorado have completed this course. From within Colorado, participants represent 18 counties including El Paso, Garfield, Montrose, and Morgan. Reception of this course is also very positive, as results show that 100% of respondents agree or strongly agree that their knowledge increased as a result of the training, they plan to use the information in their work, and the additional resources were helpful.

  Comments include, *"The online bullying prevention courseware may prove to be one of the missing links for us. In our unending search for sustainable implementation methods, I see distinct possibilities around using quick, to-the-point, and easy-to-access courses such as this. While we know it is not intended to replace comprehensive bullying prevention training, it may be just the ticket for helping bring newly hired staff on board as well as act as a refresher for those who have had complete training and practice in bullying prevention. Thank you for developing such a useable tool, and thank you for sharing it so freely."* Project Manager, Pueblo City Schools.

In-Person Workshops

In an effort to provide information about school safety-related issues to schools and youth-servicing agencies, the CSSRC has continued presenting keynote addresses and workshops on selected topics. The numbers and types of workshops or presentations offered by CSSRC staff are summarized below. Future workshops will be developed based upon request, priority of needs, and available funding.

Figure 11 displays the number of trainings provided from 2008 - 2012. The offerings for training have been well attended and there has been an increase in requests for training by various stakeholder groups. Overall training numbers were down with only one trainer on staff for the first five months of 2012 instead of two.

Figure 11. Number of CSSRC Trainings (hosted and presented) 2008-2012

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Trainings	2	18	36	55	52

Figure 12. Breakdown of CSSRC Trainings by Focus

Topics of Trainings/Presentations Provided by CSSRC staff in 2012

Prevention:
- Positive School Climate, Bullying, Cyberbullying and Harassment (29)
- Suicide Prevention (3)
- Threat Assessment (3)

Preparedness:
- Emergency Planning (1)

Response:
- Trauma and Grief in Schools (2)

Recovery:
- The Trauma Sensitive Classroom (2)
- Trauma Awareness for Parents (1)

Colorado School Safety (covering all 4 phases):
- Adult Sexual Misconduct in Schools (1)
- Psychological Safety (1)
- School Safety and New Legislation (1)
- Youth Substance Abuse (7)
- Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention in Schools (1)

Comments from these trainings include:

- *"CSSRC always do(es) a great job from registration process through the end of the event."* from Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium
- *"As a school counselor, I thought the information was concise and useful as it pertains to my profession."* from Psychological Safety and Challenges training
- *"Perhaps the most informative presentation I've had at a counseling workshop."* from Cyberbullying training
- *"Was very valuable for staff to initiate more strategies."* from Bullying and Harassment Prevention training
- *"Pacing was really nice! Good info without feeling overwhelming, because you didn't cram too much info in it. Great use of time!"* from Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium
- *"Great information on teacher responsibility & state expectations & identification of bully behaviors."* from Bullying and Harassment Prevention training
- *"Useful! Eye opening!"* from Suicide Intervention overview training

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance to Colorado Schools

The CSSRC has adopted the U.S. Department of Education Office of Safe and Drug Free Schools' four-phase model of school crisis planning as the template for all work in schools. This four-phase model includes: prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery; with specific Colorado components added such as support of Interagency Information Sharing Agreements, implementation of Safe2Tell, training in National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command Structure (ICS), and development of multi-hazard district and school-based emergency plans using the ICS as outlined in CRS §22-32-109.1.

The school safety trainings, special topic symposiums and institutes, visits to and trainings with the BOCES, the monthly E-Updates, and collaborations with many partners across the state have further raised the profile of the CSSRC and promoted its resources this past year. This increased awareness has resulted in increased numbers of school personnel and other community members contacting the Center for specific technical assistance and/or training *at their sites.* In 2012, Center staff provided 270 technical assistance consultations which is a 17% increase over 2011.

Technical assistance by telephone has been provided related to crisis planning, crisis and threat assessment team training, bullying prevention and strategies, suicide postvention, self-injury of students, as well as on a variety of issues related to social networking and electronic bullying or harassment, bullying reports/next steps, child abuse reporting, fire safety codes, and others. It may be anticipated that requests for training and technical assistance will continue to increase as more schools and districts are aware of current available services from the CSSRC.

Pilot Sites Project

The Pilot Sites Project was established under HB08-001 and has been managed by Ms. Harms, in her role as Outreach Consultant and then as Director of the Center. Assessment and planning assistance was provided by the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence – University of Colorado at Boulder (CSPV-CU). The 2011-12 school year was the final year of a proposed three-year project with these sites.

Five main pilot sites received enhanced school safety consultation and technical assistance. Others on the list below received the support of the electronic school-mapping project as provided in HB08-1267. As part of the Pilot Sites Project, all of the schools also had their maps and other information loaded into the Colorado version of the federal Automated Critical Assets Management System (C-ACAMS).

Figure 13. Pilot Sites – List of Districts and Schools

SCHOOL DISTRICT	SCHOOL NAME
Adams County School District 14	Adams City High School Adams City Middle School (HB08-1267 only) Hanson PreK-8 School (HB08-1267 only)
Durango School District 9-R	Durango High School Miller Middle School (HB08-1267 only) Escalante Middle School (HB08-1267 only)
Hayden School District RE-1	Hayden High School (HB08-1267 only) Hayden Middle School (HB08-1267 only) Hayden Elementary School (HB08-1267 only)
Lewis-Palmer School District 38	Lewis-Palmer High School (HB08-1267 only) Palmer Ridge High School (HB08-1267 only) Lewis-Palmer Middle School (HB08-1267 only)
Montezuma-Cortez School District RE-1	Montezuma-Cortez High School Cortez Middle School Kemper Elementary School

Technical Assistance Provided to Pilot Sites

Over the course of the Pilot Sites Project, Center staff had over 75 meetings or trainings with district and school leadership and with school staff at the five main pilot sites. Additional phone calls, video conferences and over 200 emails with the pilot sites included discussions about the work, climate survey results and provided information about trainings and grant opportunities to the sites. Additionally, the Center conducted a tabletop drill workshop for all the crisis teams in Adams 14 School District and provided three BOCES-wide trainings in the four corners during the three years of the project. Training by Safe2Tell and their materials were also provided to the pilot sites through the Center.

The pilot sites have received technical assistance in all four phases of crisis planning. A number of tools and templates were designed over the course of the Pilot Sites Project that have now been made available to all schools in the state. These have included:
- Colorado School Emergency Operations Plan Exercise Toolkit
- CSSRC Comprehensive School Plan template document & accompanying Checklist
- CSSRC Resource Mapping Tools
- SB08-181 & SB11-173 Management Plan Outline
- Emergency Actions for K-12 Schools
- District/School Incident Command Documents

At the end of school year 2010-11, with grant funding made available from the CSSRC in conjunction with the Division of Behavioral Health, all five pilot sites submitted proposals that were accepted and awarded funding. The pilot sites used their funding in a variety of ways to expand and enhance their school safety efforts. Funds were used for further training of their crisis teams on tabletop drills, Safe2Tell's Conversation Jump Starts, the Standard Response Protocol from the I Love U Guys Foundation and emergency communications for interoperability. A number of the sites also purchased prevention materials and training along with emergency radios for their buildings.

The pilot sites continued in the 2011-12 school year to administer the CSPV School Climate Surveys and Staff Climate Surveys to gather data and use the information for specific school safety planning at each site. Upon completion of the surveys, CSPV-CU and CSSRC assisted the schools in identifying strengths and challenges for each of the site's school safety efforts, along with evidence-based programs and strategies to address the identified issues.

Progress of Pilot Sites Project

The five main pilot site schools completed the Colorado Safe Schools Site Visit Checklist to assess their levels of school safety using the four-phase model as a baseline in January 2009, October 2009, October 2010, October 2011, and at the completion of the project in April 2012. Schools were asked to self-report on components that were completed, in-progress, or not completed at their school sites. CSPV reports that the "data indicate a movement in the right direction for all aspects of emergency management and crisis response." (Please see the entire report in Appendix D.)

Challenges

The time and complexity of the Pilot Sites Project, administering the school climate surveys to all students and staff in a building, adding the parent component of the surveys, establishing regularly scheduled safety team meetings, and completing evaluations of the overall school safety efforts were more challenging for some of the sites and less for others. The schools reported that, although school safety is a very high priority, with staff reductions and fewer resources, increased pressures on staff time and increased focus on achievement, finding time to fulfill the components of the pilot project proved difficult.

Highlights

The school-mapping project expedited the mapping of each of the sites while making this information readily available to the community emergency responders on a secure online platform. It also enhanced the relationships that each of the schools had with their community emergency responders who collaborated with the schools to complete the mapping. These collaborations have continued throughout the project and are expected to last long after the conclusion of this work.

Staff of the schools' crisis teams all received further training by participating in regional, site-based or online trainings to enhance their skills in emergency preparedness, threat assessment, bullying/ harassment prevention and intervention as well as suicide intervention. Schools standardized their responses and posted materials in all classrooms for emergency actions while training and assigning staff to roles in the Incident Command Structure. Giving school staff an opportunity to utilize the Safe2Tell program in their schools is an added safety measure completed during this project. These accomplishments for the schools involved and the materials developed that are now being used by schools across the state made this a very successful project.

The Center would like to thank the administrators and school personnel from the Adams 14 School District, Durango 9-R School District and the Montezuma-Cortez RE-1 School District for their enthusiastic participation in this Pilot Sites Project as well as the staff from the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence at CU, Boulder. These efforts have not only enhanced the safety in the buildings involved, but the lessons learned are assisting all schools across Colorado. We thank everyone for their collaboration in the project and wish them continued safety and success.

Ongoing Colorado School Safety Resource Center Work Groups

The Colorado School Safety Resource Center has gathered input from an array of stakeholder groups on various topics related to school safety. One responsibility the Center has adopted since its inception is to facilitate work groups on topics of identified high need in order to develop and distribute resources to be used by Colorado schools. Previously, the Center has facilitated work groups on Emergency Planning for K-12 Schools, Interagency Information Sharing and Threat Assessment.

School Security Personnel Best Practices Work Group

A number of school safety personnel approached and requested the Center facilitate a work group on best practices for the hiring and training of non-sworn personnel who provide school security. Of the 179 school districts across the state, there are only approximately 130 school resource officers (SRO's) serving in our schools. Some districts utilize law enforcement officers from their communities when necessary in their buildings and some of the largest districts have school security personnel that are trained by the district. For many of our schools in Colorado without these resources, there are no best practice recommendations for these non-sworn personnel and those filling the roles of school security personnel receive little or no training prior to being employed in the schools.

The first meeting of this work group was held on November 20th with the goal to produce best practice guidelines for Colorado schools by the start of the 2013-14 school year. The work group is being chaired by Larry Borland, a member of the CSSRC Advisory Board and the Chief of Security for the Academy 20 School District.

Bullying/Harassment Prevention Work Group

The Bullying/Harassment Prevention Work Group has been a cooperative effort initially brought together by the CSSRC and the Gill Foundation in December 2010. The work group has continued through 2012 and now includes participation of 35 stakeholders from the metro area who have resources or expertise related to the topic of bullying/harassment prevention. The larger work group met three times in 2012 (January, April and October), and committees have met numerous other times. The group provides a network for information sharing on the topic of bullying prevention and resources, and participants expressed the desire to continue to meet in 2013.

While all stakeholders support schools across the state in some way with bullying/harassment prevention and intervention work, the group agreed in early meetings that an approach with common messages utilizing the experience and expertise of all would be helpful to school personnel. The larger working group formed four committees to tackle specific issues related to bullying/harassment prevention.

This work group and its committees have produced or enhanced:
- Key Talking Points on Bullying/Harassment Prevention
- CSSRC Bullying and Harassment Prevention and Education
- CSSRC HB11-1254 At-A-Glance
- CSSRC Resource Mapping documents
- CLF/CDE Climate Survey Toolkit

The various products of this work group are also informing the statewide bullying prevention institutes that are being delivered around the state by the Center, the Colorado Legacy Foundation and the Colorado Department of Education. These institutes have been and will continue to be an excellent vehicle for educating schools about HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools), sharing common messages and best practices about bullying prevention and intervention, and informing schools about available resources.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

All available data indicate that awareness of school safety related resources, training, consultation and technical assistance provided by the Colorado School Safety Resource Center has kept pace or increased during 2012. In addition, the CSSRC has enhanced delivery of information about school safety practices, legislation and resources through the website, informational newsletters, and training provided across the state as well as online.

Cuts to school districts, higher education institutions, and some law enforcement agencies have caused continuing concern about the ability of local districts and schools to maintain a focus on school safety and the components of the Colorado Safe Schools Act (CRS §22-32-109.1) and other related legislation. As a result, the CSSRC focused some resources and efforts on accessing technology and training to provide its first online learning courses and electronic delivery of resources to Colorado stakeholders. Development of online school safety courses will continue in 2013.

The awareness of the link between a positive school climate and increased academic achievement will continue to be an area of emphasis for the CSSRC, as evidence has shown that school violence, bullying and harassment, or the perception thereof, can have negative impacts on student achievement and teacher performance. The Center has focused on bullying and harassment awareness, knowledge of school-wide and evidence-based strategies to address these and other school climate issues. Research also tells us that the zero tolerance policies of previous years have not been effective in reducing school violence or keeping students engaged in their learning communities. The Center has collaborated with others and will continue to lead in 2013 to bring resources, training and experts to help Colorado schools comply with HB11-1254 (Bullying in Schools) and SB12-046 (Discipline in Public Schools).

Data continue to support a need for training in youth substance use and abuse issues. Although the 2011 Healthy Kids Colorado Survey data report a decrease in substance use by students, rates of 22% of high school students binge drinking in the 30 days prior to taking the survey and 6% of middle school students having at least one drink in the past 30 days are still unacceptable. Fewer resources are available to address changing social norms and continuing concerns related to youth and substance abuse, particularly for school personnel. The Colorado School Safety Resource Center will continue to address these needs through identification of resources and training.

There has been and will continue to be an emphasis on enhancing school emergency planning and preparedness. Resources have been developed and are being distributed through direct communication with designated school safety contacts in Colorado. One effort was a mailing to all county emergency managers of the Colorado School Emergency Operations Plan Exercise Toolkit with a list of schools in their county and a request to contact the schools and offer their assistance in providing tabletop exercises. In addition, the Center will continue to provide consultation and technical assistance to schools as well as on-going training using the resources and partnerships it has developed and the best practice resources available from around the country.

Continued collaborations between state agencies and community partnerships are essential to coordinated efforts toward school safety in our state. The Center will continue the evaluation of statewide needs and services provided and work with the involved agencies and organizations to meet the changing needs of schools and youth. The CSSRC will continue to foster partnerships, and gather and distribute resources to assist schools in their efforts to improve school climate and safety. Much has been accomplished by the four members of the Center's staff. These complex issues continue to evolve, and new information is being identified. The Center looks forward to meeting the challenges to identify and disseminate the best and most useful resources and to provide needed services, so that schools can be safe places for effective learning.

Appendix A: Colorado School Safety Resource Center Founding Legislation

COLORADO REVISED STATUTES

***** This document reflects changes passed at the Second Regular Session and First Extraordinary Session
of the Sixty-Eighth General Assembly of the State of Colorado (2012) *****

**TITLE 24. GOVERNMENT - STATE
PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS
ARTICLE 33.5. PUBLIC SAFETY
PART 18. SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER**

C.R.S. 24-33.5-1801 (2012)

24-33.5-1801. Legislative declaration

(1) The general assembly hereby finds that:

(a) A safe and healthy learning environment for all students in Colorado is an important priority for the state;

(b) Research into evidence-based practices continues to demonstrate that academic achievement improves as the level of safety and security in a school increases;

(c) Studies of recent school attacks have established that school violence may be prevented with appropriate information sharing;

(d) Suicide, which remains one of the leading causes of death for Colorado's youth, may also be prevented with appropriate intervention;

(e) Both the physical and psychological well-being of students and school personnel is critically important; and

(f) Improving student engagement, including reducing dropout rates and truancy levels, is an important factor for ensuring that schools are safe and successful.

(2) The general assembly further finds that:

(a) The most appropriate way to prevent and prepare for acts of violence and other emergencies that may occur on school campuses is to foster a cooperative effort by schools, law enforcement agencies, emergency responders, behavioral health experts, parents, and community members to identify, gather, and apply the necessary resources; and

(b) Emergency response and crisis management measures should be implemented in all communities within the state to protect students and school personnel.

(3) Now, therefore, the general assembly declares that:

(a) Safe schools are a matter of statewide concern;

(b) All schools have common needs and goals to ensure a safe environment;

(c) Resources are needed to fully develop safety plans and practices in Colorado's schools, colleges, and universities; and

(d) A school safety resource center dedicated to providing evidence-based practices and expertise to all schools is a cost-effective means to improve school safety.

HISTORY: Source: L. 2008: Entire part added, p. 727, § 1, effective May 13.

Cross references: For elections, see title 1; for peace officers and firefighters, see article 5 of title 29; for state engineer, see article 80 of title 37; for state chemist, see part 4 of article 1 of title 25; for offenses against government, see article 8 of title 18; for the "Uniform Records Retention Act", see article 17 of title 6.

Cross references: For statutory provisions relating to the other principal departments of state government, see article 1 of title 8 (department of labor and employment); article 1 of title 17 (department of corrections); part 1 of article 2 of title 22 (department of education); article 1 of title 23 (department of higher education); article 21 of this title (department of state); part 1 of article 50 of this title (department of personnel); part 1 of article 1 of title 25 (department of public health and environment); article 1 of title 25.5 (department of health care policy and financing); article 1 of title 26 (department of human services); part 1 of article 1 of title 27 (department of human services); title 28 (department of military and veterans affairs); article 1 of title 35 (department of agriculture); and part 1 of article 1 of title 43 (department of transportation).

Cross references: For parole guidelines, see § 17-22.5-404; for the authority of the judicial department to develop, administer, and operate a home detention program or to contract with the division of criminal justice of the department of public safety for the utilization of home detention programs contracted for by that division, see § 17-27.8-104.

24-33.5-1802. Definitions

As used in this part 18, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Advisory board" means the school safety resource center advisory board created in the department pursuant to section 24-33.5-1804.

(2) "Center" means the school safety resource center created in the department pursuant to section 24-33.5-1803.

(3) "Director" means the director of the center.

(3.3) "First responder" means an individual who responds in a professional capacity to an emergency that occurs in a school building, including, but not limited to, peace officers, firefighters, emergency medical service providers, school administrators, and teachers.

(4) "School" means an institution at which instruction is provided by instructors to students in one or more buildings on a campus. "School" includes a school serving any of grades preschool through twelve and an institution of higher education.

24-33.5-1803. School safety resource center - created - duties

(1) There is hereby created within the department the school safety resource center to assist schools in preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and crisis situations and to foster positive learning environments. The director of the center shall be appointed by the executive director pursuant to section 13 of article XII of the state constitution.

(2) The center and the director shall exercise their powers and perform their duties and functions under the department and the executive director as if the same were transferred to the department by a type 2 transfer, as such transfer is defined in the "Administrative Organization Act of 1968", article 1 of this title.

(3) The center has the following duties:

(a) To assist schools in developing and implementing safety and preparedness plans, including but not limited to any such plans that are required by state law or applicable rules of accreditation;

(b) To assist schools in establishing practices and strategies for use in responding to an emergency or crisis situation;

(c) To assist schools in developing and establishing prevention and intervention efforts to ensure safe and secure learning environments;

(d) To conduct regular research and assessment projects to determine the efficacy of statewide and local policies and programming;

(e) To make information and other resources available to all schools and school officials;

(f) (I) To select at least one but not more than five school districts or regions, with the consent of the affected school district boards of education, to serve as pilot sites during the first year of the center's operation. The center shall evaluate and develop enhanced school safety services to be provided by the center to the pilot sites.

(II) In selecting the school districts or regions that shall serve as pilot sites pursuant to subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (f), the center shall designate at least one but not more than three schools within each of the pilot sites to participate in a cooperative effort by all such designated schools within the pilot sites to create a first responder school mapping system to provide first responders immediate electronic or digital access to maps of, and other schematic information about, school buildings at such designated schools in the event of an emergency at the designated schools. In creating the first responder school mapping system, the pilot sites

may contract with one or more public or private entities with experience in creating first responder school mapping systems. Before entering into any such contract or otherwise proceeding with plans for the creation of the first responder school mapping system, the pilot sites shall submit the contract or plans to the center to approve or disapprove. The department shall reimburse the pilot sites for the direct and indirect costs of creating the first responder school mapping system pursuant to this subparagraph (II).

(III) The general assembly hereby finds and declares that, for purposes of section 17 of article IX of the state constitution, the development and creation of a first responder school mapping system, pursuant to subparagraph (II) of this paragraph (f), is an important element of improving student safety and may therefore receive funding from the state education fund created in section 17 (4) of article IX of the state constitution.

(g) To provide information and resources relating to school safety, school emergency response planning and training, and interoperable communications in schools, as determined by the center, to the division of fire prevention and control in the department of public safety to be distributed to school districts and schools pursuant to section 24-33.5-1213.4;

(h) (I) To consult with school districts, schools, and charter schools concerning evidence-based best practices for bullying prevention and education;

(II) To consult with the department of education concerning its administration of the school bullying prevention and education grant program created in section 22-93-102, C.R.S.; and

(III) To submit evidence-based best practices for bullying prevention and education to the department of education for the purposes of section 22-93-106, C.R.S.

(4) Subject to the provisions of section 13 of article XII of the state constitution, the director shall appoint employees necessary to conduct an efficient center.

HISTORY: Source:. L. 2008: Entire part added, p. 729, § 1, effective May 13; (3)(f) amended, p. 733, § 2, effective May 13.L. 2011: (3)(e) amended and (3)(h) added, (HB 11-1254), ch. 173, p. 655, § 7, effective May 13; (3)(g) added, (SB 11-173), ch. 310, p. 1517, § 6, effective June 10.L. 2012: (3)(g) amended, (HB 12-1283), ch. 240, p. 1134, § 46, effective July 1.

Cross references: (1) For the legislative declaration in the 2011 act adding subsection (3)(g), see section 1 of chapter 310, Session Laws of Colorado 2011.

(2) For the legislative declaration in the 2012 act amending subsection (3)(g), see section 1 of chapter 240, Session Laws of Colorado 2012.

24-33.5-1804. School safety resource center advisory board - created - repeal

(1) There is hereby created in the department the school safety resource center advisory board to recommend policies of the center.

(2) (a) The advisory board shall consist of not less than thirteen members, each of whom shall be appointed to a term of two years as follows:

(I) One member shall represent the department of education created pursuant to section 24-1-115 and be appointed by the commissioner of education.

(II) One member shall be an individual with professional expertise in behavioral health treatment who represents an elementary or secondary school or a school district and be appointed by the commissioner of education.

(III) One member shall be a school administrator and be appointed by the commissioner in consultation with a statewide association of school executives.

(IV) One member shall represent state universities and colleges and be appointed by the executive director of the Colorado commission on higher education appointed pursuant to section 24-1-114.

(V) One member shall represent community colleges and junior colleges and be appointed by the state board for community colleges and occupational education created pursuant to section 23-60-104, C.R.S.

(VI) One member shall be a member of a parents' organization and be appointed by the governor.

(VII) One member shall be a district attorney and be appointed by the governor.

(VIII) One member shall represent the unit within the department of human services, created pursuant to section 26-1-105, C.R.S., that administers behavioral health programs and services, including those related to mental health and substance abuse, and be appointed by the executive director of the department of human services.

(IX) One member shall represent the department of public health and environment created pursuant to section 25-1-102, C.R.S., and be appointed by the executive director of the department of public health and environment.

(X) One member shall represent the Colorado department of law created pursuant to section 24-1-113 and be appointed by the attorney general.

(XI) One member shall represent the department and be appointed by the executive director.

(XII) One member shall be an individual with professional expertise in school security and be appointed by the executive director.

(XIII) One member shall be a law enforcement professional and be appointed by the executive director.

(b) The appointing authority of each member of the advisory board shall appoint the member on or before October 1, 2008, and reappoint the member or appoint a new member no later than one month before the expiration of the member's term.

(c) Additional advisory board members may be added to the advisory board as necessary subject to:

(I) The approval of the executive director; and

(II) A majority vote of approval by the existing advisory board members.

(3) If any member of the advisory board vacates his or her office during the term for which appointed to the advisory board, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the executive director for the unexpired term.

(4) The advisory board shall annually elect from its members a chairperson and a secretary.

(5) The advisory board shall meet as determined necessary by the director. The members of the advisory board shall receive no compensation but shall be reimbursed by the department for necessary travel and other expenses actually incurred in the performance of their official duties.

(6) (a) This section is repealed, effective July 1, 2017.

(b) Prior to said repeal, the advisory board appointed pursuant to this section shall be reviewed as provided in section 2-3-1203, C.R.S.

HISTORY: Source:. L. 2008: Entire part added, p. 729, § 1, effective May 13.L. 2011: (2)(a)(VIII) amended, (HB 11-1303), ch. 264, p. 1164, § 57, effective August 10.

24-33.5-1805. Authorization to contract for services

The department is authorized to contract for services with any state, county, local, municipal, or private agency to implement the provisions of this part 18 and fulfill the duties of the center, which duties are described in section 24-33.5-1803 (3).

HISTORY: Source: L. 2008: Entire part added, p. 731, § 1, effective May 13.

24-33.5-1806. Evaluation - report

(1) On or before January 1, 2010, the director shall prepare and submit to the executive director a report evaluating the efficacy and value of the services provided by the center to schools.

(2) On or before January 15, 2010, the executive director shall prepare and submit to the education and judiciary committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees, a report evaluating the efficacy and value of the services provided by the center to schools.

HISTORY: Source: L. 2008: Entire part added, p. 731, § 1, effective May 13.

24-33.5-1807. School safety resource center cash fund

(1) There is hereby created in the state treasury the school safety resource center cash fund, referred to in this section as the "fund". The fund shall consist of:

(a) Such moneys as the general assembly may appropriate to the fund;

(b) Gifts, grants, and donations received by the department pursuant to subsection (2) of this section; and

(c) Any moneys that the center receives as fees charged to attendees of a training program or conference, as described in section 24-33.5-1808.

(2) The department is authorized to solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations from public and private sources for the purposes of this part 18; except that the department may not accept a gift, grant, or donation that is subject to conditions that are inconsistent with this section or any other law of the state. All moneys collected by the department pursuant to this subsection (2) shall be transmitted to the state treasurer, who shall credit the same to the fund.

(3) The moneys in the fund shall be subject to annual appropriation by the general assembly to the department for the direct and indirect costs associated with implementing this part 18. Any moneys in the fund not expended for the purposes of this part 18 may be invested by the state treasurer as provided by law. All interest and income derived from the investment and deposit of moneys in the fund shall be credited to the fund.

(4) (a) The department is authorized to expend moneys from the fund for the purposes of this part 18.

(b) The department may expend up to two percent of the moneys annually appropriated from the fund to offset the costs incurred in implementing this part 18.

(5) Any unexpended and unencumbered moneys remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall remain in the fund and shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund or another fund.

HISTORY: Source: L. 2010: Entire section added, (HB 10-1336), ch. 342, p. 1581, § 2, effective June 5.

24-33.5-1808. Training program and conference fees authorized

(1) The center is authorized to charge a fee to each attendee of a training program or conference that the center implements for the purposes of this part 18. The center shall forward each fee collected pursuant to this section to the state treasurer, who shall credit the entire amount to the school safety resource center cash fund created in section 24-33.5-1807.

(2) The total amount of fees charged by the center to attendees of a training program or conference pursuant to subsection (1) of this section shall not exceed the actual costs incurred by the center in implementing the training program or conference.

HISTORY: Source: L. 2010: Entire section added, (HB 10-1336), ch. 342, p. 1582, § 2, effective June 5.

Appendix B: Letter to Superintendents Dated August 6, 2012

cdps

School Safety Resource Center
Christine R. Harms, M.S.
Director

700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215-5865
(303) 239-4435
FAX (303) 239-4510

August 6, 2012

Dear Superintendent:

We are excited that another school year is upon us. In an effort to support a safe year in your district as well as with all Colorado schools, the Colorado School Safety Resource Center is available to help you create a safe, positive and successful school environment.

The School Safety Resource Center offers online training courses as well as site-specific trainings. A variety of training topics include, but are not limited to, bullying, harassment, substance abuse, suicide prevention and threat assessments. We are also available to come directly to your school or district to provide training that suits your precise needs. We have enclosed a copy of three no-cost trainings that are open for registration this fall as well as information about our new online courses. We will also forward an electronic copy of this communication with a request that you forward it to your respective building principals.

Please visit our new website at www.Colorado.gov/SchoolSafetyResourceCenter for information on training courses as well as other resources that are available. All our services are available free of charge.

The team in the School Safety Resource Center is available to answer your questions or help you enroll in one of our online training classes. Mike Lythgoe is the Center's School Outreach Consultant. Alice Huyler is the Resource Specialist. Please contact me or Bridget O'Dell, the Center's Administrative Assistant, at 303-239-4435 and we will be happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Christine R. Harms, MS
Director
Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Colorado Department of Public Safety
700 Kipling Street, Suite 1000
Lakewood, CO 80215
Christine.Harms@cdps.state.co.us

Enclosures (3)

John W. Hickenlooper
GOVERNOR

James H. Davis
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Colorado State Patrol

Colorado Bureau
of Investigation

Division of
Criminal Justice

Division of Fire
Prevention and Control

Division of Homeland Security
and Emergency Management

Colorado

School Safety Resource Center

Crisis Planning for an Off-Campus Event

This module is designed to review best practices in responding to an off-campus crisis that impacts your school, for example a car accident involving a student.

Designed for: school safety teams, administrators, school mental health professionals, teachers

To access the course:
- Go to www.co.train.org
- Sign in or create a new account
- Search for Course ID **1026872**

This course counts as one hour of professional training. A printable certificate will be available upon completing the course.

Bullying Prevention & Intervention Under Colorado Law

This module is designed as an overview of bullying and harassment in schools.

Designed for: school safety teams, administrators, school mental health professionals, teachers, PBIS teams

To access the course:
- Go to www.co.train.org
- Sign in or create a new account
- Search for Course ID **1034235**

This course counts as one hour of professional training. A printable certificate will be available upon completing the course.

The CSSRC provides consultation, resources, training, and technical assistance to foster safe and secure learning environments, positive school climates, and early intervention to prevent crisis situations.

Colorado School Safety Resource Center Academic Year 2012-2013 Upcoming Trainings:

www.safeschools.state.co.us   http://twitter.com/CoSSRC   303-239-4435

Thursday, September 27th

Youth Substance Abuse Symposium

with keynote speakers

Paula Riggs, M.D.
Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Health Disorders

and **Marguerite McCormack**
Mental Health Issues & Trauma

In collaboration with the
Colorado Department of Human Services &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Adams 12 Conference Center

For more information contact CSSRC, 303-239-4435
Register at www.co.train.org, Course ID: 1031923

Colorado Safe Schools Week
Thursday, October 25th

Bullying Prevention Institute

with keynote speaker

Dorothy Espelage, Ph.D.
Getting Smart about School Based Bullying Prevention

In collaboration with the
Colorado Legacy Foundation &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Silverthorne Pavilion

For more information contact CSSRC, 303-239-4435
Register at www.co.train.org, Course ID: 1033731

Save the Date: Thursday, November 29th

Youth Suicide Prevention & Intervention Symposium
with keynote speaker

Mary Margaret Kerr, Ed.D.

In collaboration with the Office of Suicide Prevention (CDPHE) &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Aurora Public Schools Professional Learning and Conference Center

For more information contact: Colorado School Safety Resource Center, 303-239-4435
Registration for this training not yet open.

Colorado
School Safety Resource Center
Department of Public Safety

The CSSRC provides consultation, resources, training, and technical assistance to foster safe and secure learning environments, positive school climates, and early intervention to prevent crisis situations.

Colorado School Safety Resource Center

- Early Intervention to Prevent Crises
- Safe & Secure Learning Environments
- Positive School Climates

Colorado School Safety Resource Center
Colorado Department of Public Safety
700 Kipling St, Suite 1000
Denver, CO 80215

Tel: (303)239-4435
Fax: (303)239-4510
Email:
schoolsafetycenter@cdps.state.co.us

Please visit our website:
www.safeschools.state.co.us

Other School Support Services from the Department of Public Safety

The Division of Fire Safety (DFS)
303-239-4600 www.dfs.state.co.us

Office of Preparedness and Security
1-877-509-CIAC ciac@ciac.co.gov

Colorado School Safety Resource Center

Colorado Department of Public Safety

Supporting Safe and Positive Schools for Colorado

- Consultation
- Resources
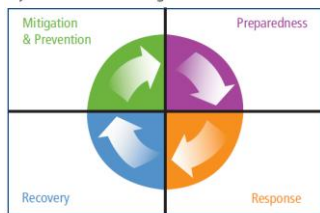- Training
- Technical Assistance

Colorado School Safety Resource Center

Established through legislation in 2008 (CRS 24-33.5-1801, et seq.)

The mission of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center is to collaboratively assist educators, emergency responders, community organizations, school mental health professionals, parents, and students to create safe, positive and successful school environments for all Colorado students in pre K-12 and higher education schools.

The CSSRC provides resources and training using the U.S. Department of Education's four phase model of crisis planning for schools: prevention/mitigation; response; preparedness and recovery.

Cycle of Crisis Planning*

Mitigation & Prevention — Preparedness — Recovery — Response

*The Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools
U.S. Department of Education (January 2007)

The Center provides <u>no cost</u> consultation, resources, training and technical assistance to foster safe and secure learning environments, positive school climates and early intervention to prevent crisis situations for all Colorado schools.

RESOURCES

Our website and knowledgeable staff provide the most current resources and training information for school personnel; emergency responders; community partners; and parents and students on all topics related to school safety.

www.safeschools.state.co.us

TRAINING

Colorado Safe Schools Regional Trainings conducted in collaboration with the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CU, Boulder) provide current and updated information on school safety and crisis planning for school administrators, school staff, first responders, other community members who serve youth or schools.

Topic Centered: Youth Suicide Prevention and Intervention Symposium conducted in collaboration with Colorado Department of Education and Office of Suicide Prevention (CDPHE).

Customized School Safety Trainings by Request: Bullying, Cyberbullying and Harassment Prevention; Conducting Table Top Drills; School Crisis Preparedness and Response; Self-Injury; Supporting Grieving and Traumatized Children; Threat Assessment; Violence Prevention; Youth Suicide Prevention, Intervention and Postvention and others.

CSSRC can offer your school or district customized training to meet your training needs.
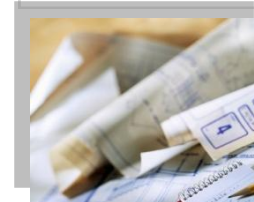
CONSULTATION

CSSRC offers all schools and district no cost consultation to meet their needs.

Sample of consultations provided to schools include but not limited to:

1. School Safety Planning for Administrators and Safety Planning Teams
2. Crisis Response Planning
3. Strategies to Address Bullying and Harassment
4. SB08-181 (NIMS Compliance)
5. Conducting Tabletop Exercises and others.
6. Resource inquiries

The Center works collaboratively with other state and federal agencies in its efforts.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance included providing tips, tools and templates developed by both the Center and specialized CSSRC work groups: Information Sharing, Threat Assessment and Emergency Response. Some documents are listed on www.safeschools.state.co.us. For additional information and tools, please contact CSSRC.

Please contact CSSRC for additional information or assistance by phone at 303-239-4435 or email at schoolsafetycenter@cdps.state.co.us

Appendix C: Colorado Safe Schools Newsletters 2012

Colorado Safe Schools

Prevent

Recover

Prepare

Respond

SAFE SCHOOLS

Sample CSSRC/DBH Grant Projects
◊

• **Academy 20** – Safety & Security Procedure Video

• **Adams 12** – Web based software for campus security

• **Adams 14** – Tabletop drills with all school crisis teams & restorative justice training

• **Centennial BOCES** – Title IX Administrators Online Training

• **Colorado Springs 11** – Security camera installations

• **Denver Public Schools** – De-escalation Training for staff

• **Englewood** – LifeSkills training for staff

• **Harrison** – PREPaRE & Signs of Self Harm staff trainings

• **Lewis-Palmer** – Mental Health Crisis Prevention, Response & Recovery Manual

• **Pueblo 70** – Installation of interoperability device

•**Trinidad** – Project Toward No Drug Abuse

Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC/Center) Updates

The CSSRC is pleased to announce the appointment of Christine R. Harms, M.S. as the new Center **Director.** Ms. Harms has been the School Outreach Consultant for the Center since April 2009. Her previous experience includes coordinating a school safety center in Pennsylvania as well as having been a school administrator, teacher, psychotherapist and trainer for a number of non-profit organizations. Ms. Harms looks forward to continuing the successful work and collaborations the Center has achieved under the guidance of its first director, Dr. Linda Kanan. Dr. Kanan retired in December and we thank her for her service and wish her well. A search for a new **School Outreach Consultant** is underway.

The process for filling the position of **Resource Specialist** at the Center is also continuing. As many of you know, Mike Lythgoe our previous Resource Specialist left to join our colleagues across the hall at the Division of Fire Safety. We also wish Mike well in his new position.

In mid September Alice Huyler joined the staff as the Center's **Administrative Assistant** replacing Anastasiya Schomaker who moved to the Department of Criminal Justice. Ms. Huyler is a native Coloradan with a bachelor's degree in economics and extensive administrative experience. She has been a welcome addition to the team.

Promotion of School Safety and Substance Abuse Prevention Grants

In April 2011, the Center was pleased to enter into an interagency agreement with the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH), Department of Human Services for the purpose of providing grant funds to schools for the promotion of school safety and substance abuse prevention.

Fifty-three applications were received and a grant review committee comprised of CSSRC Advisory Board members and staff awarded grants to twenty-nine districts, three BOCES and the CSSRC five pilot sites. Grantees were required to conduct all trainings and expend the funds by September 30, 2011. A total of $419,000 was made available to schools.

Schools utilized the funding in a variety of projects benefiting either school safety and/or substance abuse prevention efforts. A sample of the projects undertaken by the schools is listed in the attached column. The CSSRC urges you to call the Center for more information about these projects.

Substance Abuse Symposiums

CSSRC in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Human Services & Colorado Department of Education will present two
Substance Abuse Symposiums on:

Thursday, May 3rd at the Ft. Collins Marriott and
Thursday, May 10th at the Pueblo Convention Center.

Paula Riggs, MD, the keynoter will present:
Co-Occurring Substance Use & Psychiatric Disorders

Colorado School Emergency Operations Plan Exercise Toolkit

The Center is pleased to offer tabletop exercises for school safety/ crisis teams utilizing the Colorado School Emergency Operations Plan Exercise Toolkit. You will recall that this toolkit was produced in collaboration with the Division of Emergency Management, the former Governor's Office of Homeland Security, the Colorado School Districts Self Insurance Pool and the Cherry Creek School District. Copies of the toolkit were sent to each district at the start of the school year.

Additional copies can be downloaded from the CSSRC website at:
www.http://www.safeschools.state.co.us/Preparedness%20Resources.htm#k8

CSPV Launches *Steps to Success* in Northeast Denver

This February, CSPV and its partners will launch *Steps to Success*, a community-based initiative designed to reduce youth violence in northeast Denver.

The initiative will use the Communities that Care (CTC) model to engage Montbello community members in prevention efforts, including data collection, prioritizing needs, and adopting intervention strategies. The CTC model guides these prevention efforts through a five-stage process:

• Assess readiness to undertake collaborative prevention efforts;
• Obtain commitment to the CTC process from community leaders and form a prevention coalition;
• Use data to assess prevention needs;
• Choose tested and effective prevention policies, practices and programs; and
• Implement and evaluate efforts.

In addition to reducing juvenile violence, the project includes an educational component to train and mentor public health and behavioral science graduate students, physicians, pediatricians and family practice doctors to recognize and treat signs of youth violence.

According to Del Elliott, founding director of CSPV, "Currently, the responsibility of addressing youth violence falls primarily on the school systems and the juvenile justice system. We intend to create a novel combination of risk assessment and interventions in a broad partnership with the community, and in collaboration with a local hospital, to address the problem of high levels of violence."

The project is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Partners include the Lowry Family Center, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Children's Hospital Colorado, The Foundation for Educational Excellence, the Denver Crime Patrol and Prevention Commission, Denver Police Department and the Denver Safe City Office.

Blueprints for Violence Prevention Conference: April 11-13 in San Antonio, Texas

The 2012 Blueprints for Violence Prevention conference is set for April 11-13 in San Antonio, Texas. The conference is open to juvenile justice professionals, prevention specialists, educators and youth advocates.

Sessions include science-based information on effective youth violence, delinquency and drug prevention programs. Program experts will provide education, guidance and tools for individuals, communities and agencies interested in implementation success, sustainability, policy and effective leadership.

For more information or to register, visit www.blueprintsconference.com

Bullying Prevention Through Shakespeare

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence is collaborating with the Colorado Shakespeare Festival in developing and implementing an innovative approach to bullying prevention in Colorado schools.

The two University of Colorado departments created a touring theatre program that combines a shortened version of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night with classroom workshops that focus on the bullying aspects of the play.

The 2011-12 tour visited 53 schools, performed for more than 11,000 students, and conducted classroom workshops with 4,000 of those students. As part of this effort, schools receive a study guide which emphasizes an analysis of the themes in the play as well as information about bullying and school safety, complete with classroom exercises, discussion questions, and statistics about violence in the schools.

NOW BOOKING FOR FALL 2012
Email csfedout@colorado.edu or
call 303-492-1973

safe2tell®

Colorado's anonymous tip line makes it easy and safe for students, teachers or parents to report concerns about safety.

Learn more and request materials online at www.safe2tell.org

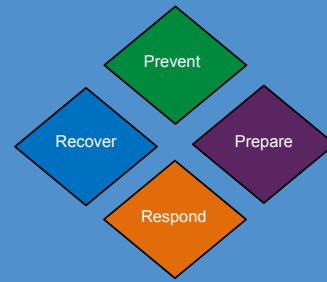## Schedule Your School Climate Assessment Today!
CSPV is offering online surveys to schools at no charge this spring. These surveys collect student, staff and parent perspectives on safety, relationships, teaching & learning and the school's physical environment.

Call or email for more information: 303-492-1032 or safeschools@colorado.edu

Colorado
Safe Schools

A joint publication of the Colorado School Safety Resource Center, Colorado Department of Public Safety and
The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, University of Colorado-Boulder

Prevent

Recover

Prepare

Respond

Beverly Kingston Joins CSPV as Director

CSPV is pleased to announce that Dr. Beverly Kingston has been hired as the director of the Center. Kingston returns to CSPV after serving as director of the Adams County Youth Initiative for the past five years.

In this new role, Kingston now oversees CSPV operations after Jane Grady's retirement in February, while Dr. Del Elliott remains on staff as founding director.

A graduate of the University of Colorado, Kingston completed her Ph.D. in Sociology while studying criminology under her mentor, Dr. Elliott. Her career has been dedicated to conducting research and leading projects to support healthy youth and community development.

"I chose to attend graduate school at CU Boulder because I was so inspired and impressed by Dr. Del Elliott's great work in the field of violence prevention and CSPV's mission to bridge the gap between research and practice. To be invited to serve as the director of CSPV is truly a dream come true for me."

Her research and professional interests mesh seamlessly with CSPV's dedication to prevention research and evidence-based practice while supporting healthy youth development.

School Climate Survey Site Gets Upgrades

Used with other data like attendance records and office referrals, school climate assessments are integral to safety planning and student support. To help schools conduct reliable and comprehensive assessments, the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) will launch an enhanced survey website in fall 2012. Upgrades to the site will make it even easier for schools, in Colorado and across the nation, to use CSPV's comprehensive assessment tool.

The surveys, developed as a key component of the Safe Communities-Safe Schools (SCSS) initiative, are research-based assessment tools designed to help identify strengths and needs in key areas related to school climate and safety. Three interrelated surveys are designed to collect opinions and perspectives from students, staff and parents using measures on:

- School climate
- Violence and other problem behaviors
- Protective factors
- Health and wellness

Questions ask about student attitudes toward school, certain problem behaviors like substance use, and include optional questions about topics like mental health, physical safety and involvement in prosocial activities. Schools find the comprehensive section about bullying particularly helpful. The staff and parent surveys contain similar questions about school climate, perceived student behaviors, and risk and protective factors.

The combined results gathered by these three surveys provide powerful data about the behaviors and perceptions that influence school climate. For each survey, a comprehensive results report is issued that includes a summary of the data, summary data by gender and grade levels, and individual questions. As an added benefit, CSPV includes an evidence-based programs report that describes programs and strategies for the most common problem behaviors.

The enhanced assessment process will be fully automated so schools are able to initialize, schedule and administer surveys, and download reports, all from the website. Demographic and survey data will be collected through the website and stored on a secure server. All data belong to the school and remain anonymous and confidential.

Visit www.colorado.edu/cspv/safeschools/surveys for additional information on this exciting new option. Or contact CSPV by phone 303-492-1032 or email SafeSchools@colorado.edu with questions you may have.

Shakespeare Festival Planning its Fall Tour
September 18 - November 9, 2012

Now booking for fall, the Colorado Shakespeare Festival is again partnering with CSPV to present Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* coupled with anti-bullying workshops. The 2-hour program includes a 50-minute performance, post-show talk-back with the cast, three lively classroom workshops, and study guide.
**Read more or book online at
www.coloradoshakes.org/education-outreach/shakespeare-in-the-schools**

Colorado School Safety Resource Center Academic Year 2012-2013 Upcoming Trainings:

www.safeschools.state.co.us   http://twitter.com/CoSSRC   303-239-4435

Thursday, September 27th

Substance Abuse Symposium

with keynote speaker
Paula Riggs, M.D.
Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and
Mental Health Disorders

In collaboration with the
Colorado Department of Human Services &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Adams 12 Conference Center

For more information contact CSSRC, 303-239-4435
Register at www.co.train.org, Course ID: 1031923

Colorado Safe Schools Week
Thursday, October 25th

Bullying Prevention Institute

with keynote speaker
Dorothy Espelage, Ph.D.
Getting Smart about School Based
Bullying Prevention

In collaboration with the
Colorado Legacy Foundation &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Silverthorne Pavilion

For more information contact CSSRC, 303-239-4435
Register at www.co.train.org, Course ID: 1033731

Thursday, November 29th

Youth Suicide Prevention & Intervention Symposium

In collaboration with the Office of Suicide Prevention (CDPHE) &
Colorado Department of Education

at the Aurora Public Schools Professional Learning and Conference Center

For more information contact: Colorado School Safety Resource Center, 303-239-4435

Colorado's anonymous reporting system makes it easy and safe for students,
teachers or parents to report concerns about safety.

Learn more and request materials online at www.safe2tell.org

safe2tell®
Make a Call. Make a Difference.
1-877-542-SAFE

Appendix D: Final Pilot Site Checklist and Climate Survey Report Dated June 2012

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence
University of Colorado at Boulder

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Provided to the

COLORADO SCHOOL SAFETY RESOURCE CENTER

Final Report
June, 2012

Dr. Delbert Elliott,
Director, Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence

Dr. Sabrina Arredondo Mattson,
Director, Safe Communities~Safe School Initiative

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence
Institute of Behavioral Science
University of Colorado at Boulder
(303) 492-1032
June, 2010

INTRODUCTION

The Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence (CSPV) at the University of Colorado, Boulder provides research and development services to the Colorado School Safety Resource Center (CSSRC) based on Interagency Agreements for fiscal years 2008-2012. This includes assistance with the CSSRC Pilot Site Project as outlined in C.R.S. 24-33.5-180. This report provides a descriptive summary of Pilot Site Project from the beginning of the project through the spring of 2012 focusing on their Checklist and School Climate Survey Results.

At the beginning of the CSSRC Pilot Site Project, Linda Kanan, Ph.D. the Director of CSSRC, worked with staff from CSPV to develop a checklist of items that were important for school staff to adopt or complete to improve safety at their school. The Colorado Safe Schools Checklist (Checklist) was based on the U.S. Department of Education's four phases of crisis management found in "Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities." The Checklist was administered to five schools participating in the Pilot Site Project at four time periods from January 2009 to June 2012. This report provides a description of how the five pilot sites have improved since the beginning of the project. The Checklist was not intended to be used to conduct a formal outcome evaluation of the Pilot Site Project; it was intended to be used as a process measure to identify the pilot sites' efforts to implement components of the Checklist.

Another component of the Pilot Site Project was to examine each pilot site's efforts to improve their school climate. The Safe Communities~Safe Schools Implementation Model was used by CSPV staff to guide pilot sites through this process. Each of the pilot sites administered the Safe Communities~Safe Schools survey instruments on three measurement occasions to assess change in their school climate over time. This process was also not intended to formally evaluate the outcomes of the Pilot Site Project; it was used to monitor each pilot site's efforts toward improving its school's climate. This model and its summary findings will be described in detail in the Climate Survey Highlights section of this report.

CHECKLIST METHODOLOGY

CSPV staff used a process evaluation design to assess the progress of the participating pilot site schools for the CSSRC Pilot Site Project. A formal outcome evaluation of the Pilot Site Project was not intended due to the nature of the project. This project was reviewed by the University of Colorado's Institutional Review Board (IRB) and it was determined that this process does not meet the definition of research. Therefore, the data are only intended for internal use by Colorado public schools and the information cannot be published.

SAMPLE

As part of Senate Bill 08-001 (C.R.S. 24-33.5-1801, et seq.) the CSSRC identified five pilot site schools around the state to receive enhanced school safety services and technical assistance. The schools were selected based on several criteria including: school safety improvement need, limited evidence-based violence prevention programming in place, commitment of leadership and community partners and location (urban, rural, etc.). The CSSRC's Advisory Board selected the following types of schools:

Urban: one high school
Rural: two high schools, one middle school and one elementary school

This small sample was not intended to be considered representative of the schools in Colorado.

PROCEDURE

As part of the Pilot Site Project, five schools completed a 31-item Colorado Safe Schools Checklist (Checklist) at four points in time to assess their level of school preparedness and track progress in the four phases of crisis planning. Administrators from the five schools were asked to complete the Checklist at the beginning of the Project (Baseline), at 9 month follow-up (Time 2), at a 15 month follow-up (Time 3), Time 4 (27 month follow-up) and lastly at Time 5 (33 months later). CSSRC staff specified the follow-up time frames to meet their Legislative Report deadlines. After the 9 month follow-up the checklists were completed every 12 months in October. The last follow-up was requested by the CSSRC staff.

The Checklist was created in collaboration by CSSRC and CSPV staff and was based on the U.S. Department of Education's four phases of crisis management found in "Practical Information on Crisis Planning: A Guide for Schools and Communities." The CSSRC adapted the model and provided topic areas that were important to complete and/or implement as part of safe school planning (figure 1). The Checklist covers five main sections: 1) Safe School Planning Teams, 2) Prevention Phase, 3) Preparedness Phase, 4) Response Phase, and 5) Recovery Phase.

Figure 1. Colorado School Safety Center Four Phase Pilot Model

Prevention/Mitigation Phase	Preparedness Phase
• Develop Safe School Planning Teams • Assess School Safety Strengths & Needs • Create a Safe School Climate • Develop a Physically Safe & Secure Environment • Enforce Fair & Consistent District Policies & Procedures • Increase Violence Prevention Awareness • Provide Anonymous Reporting • Establish Interagency Information Sharing Agreements • Provide Evidenced-Based Violence Prevention Programs & Strategies to Address Identified Needs • Provide Comprehensive School Health & Psychological Services	• Train Safe Schools Planning & Crisis Teams in NIMS • Develop Interagency Multi-Hazard Plans • Develop District & Site-Based Multi-Hazard Plans using ICS (Incident Command System) • Develop District and Site-Based Standard Response & Recovery Plans & Procedures • Develop Effective Communication Plans • Provide Facilities Information to First Responders • Obtain Emergency Equipment & Supplies • Provide Training to Appropriate Staff for all 4 Phases • Conduct Practice Drills, including Tabletops & Full Scale
Recovery Phase	**Response/Intervention Phase**
• Plan and Train for Recovery in the Preparedness Phase • Activate Crisis Recovery Team • Restore the Physical Structure • Assess & Monitor Emotional Impact & Ongoing Needs • Implement Psychological Recovery Plan • Coordinate with Community Mental Health/Victims' Assistance • Debrief & Complete After-Action Report • Implement Plans for Anniversaries & Memorials • Adjust Preparedness Plans and Responses as Indicated	• Determine Standard Best Practice Interventions and Crisis Response Procedures in the Preparedness Phase • Provide Multi-Tiered Evidence-Based Interventions for Students At-Risk • Implement Standard Best Practice Interventions and Crisis Response Procedures for all Types of School Crises • Implement ICS Roles & Responsibilities as Needed • Implement Effective Communication Plans • Debrief During Response to Determine Additional Needs

The Safe School Planning Team section covers questions regarding the various planning teams at their school (District Crisis Planning Team, Safe School Planning Team, District Crisis Response Team, School Crisis Response Team, Recovery Team, Threat Assessment Team, etc.) This section also asks whether the planning teams include members from other agencies and the community such as law enforcement, the fire department, health and human services, parents and students.

The Prevention Phase of the Checklist covers a variety of topics such as: climate surveys or assessments they plan to administer, the types of prevention policies they have in place, violence prevention training provided, availability of an anonymous reporting system, interagency agreements, information sharing, violence prevention programs, problem behavior programs, and school health and psychological services.

Included in the Preparedness Phase of the Checklist are topics such as: NIMS training, comprehensiveness of their plan, Memoranda of Understanding with community partners, school mapping, emergency equipment and supplies, emergency response drills, exercises and training.

The Response Phase of the Checklist refers to the following aspects of emergency response planning: the extent to which schools have written response guidelines, have been trained in the guidelines and ICS roles, previous experiences responding to an emergency, and post emergency debriefings.

The Recovery Phase of the Checklist has the smallest number of questions covering topics such as: training in trauma or recovery practices, experiences recovering from a major incident, and coordination with community mental health and victims' assistance services.

At the direction of CSSRC staff, the original Checklist (2008) (see Appendix A) was modified after being administered at baseline. Appendix B includes the current version of the Checklist (2009). Therefore, comparisons between Baseline and Time 2 should be made with caution. Although we tracked progress toward the completion of the checklist item all items were recoded into a "yes" or a "no" indicating having completed the checklist item or not.

School Safety administrators were asked to complete the Checklist and return it to CSPV staff within a month of receiving the Checklist: Baseline (January 13, 2009); Time 2 (October 31, 2009); Time 3 (October 31, 2010); Time 4 (October 31, 2011); Time 5 (April 31, 2012). In some cases the same administrator completed the Checklist every year and in some cases a different administrator completed the Checklist due to turnover or staff time constraints.

CHECKLIST RESULTS

OVERALL PILOT SITE RESULTS

All five school sites completed the Checklist at all three time periods for a response rate of 100% at Baseline, Time 2, Time 3, Time 4 and Time 5.

The pilot sites have shown a general increase in "completing" components in all four phases of emergency management and crisis response. Highlights of the data at baseline, and for each follow-up time are presented below. The data are purely descriptive and simply list the average number of accomplishments in the measures at the different points in time.

On average at Baseline (Table 1.):
- o pilot schools had completed between 5% and 55% of the components measured with regard to safety teams and in all four phases
- o pilot schools had completed more than half of the components measured in the prevention (50%) and response phases (55%)
- o areas needing most improvement were the preparedness phase (5%), followed by safety teams (10%) and the recovery phase (10%)

On average at Time 2 (Table 2.):
- o pilot schools had completed between 30% and 55% of the components measured with regard to safety teams and in all four phases
- o pilot schools had completed more than half of the components measured with regard to safety teams (55%), in the prevention phase (51%) and the response phase (55%)

On average at Time 3 (Table 3.):
- o pilot schools had completed between 30% and 65% of the components measured with regard to safety teams and in all the four phases
- o pilot schools continued to improve slightly in the following phases: prevention (58%), preparedness (39%) and response (65%)

On average at Time 4 (Table 4.):
- o pilot schools had completed between 40% and 69% of the components measured with regard to safety teams and in all the four phases
- o pilot schools continued to improve slightly with regard to safety teams and all four phases: safety teams (63%), prevention (69%), preparedness (49%), response (75%) and recovery (40%)

On average at Time 5 (Table 5.):
- o pilot schools had completed between 50% and 71% of the components measured with regard to safety teams and in all the four phases
- o pilot schools continued to improve slightly with regard to safety teams and almost all four phases: safety teams (68%), prevention (71%), preparedness (54%), response (70%) and recovery (50%)

TABLE 1.

Phase	Average Items Adopted	Max Items Possible	Checklist Status
Baseline Teams	0.8	8	10%
Baseline Prevent	15.0	30	50%
Baseline Prepare	1.4	30	5%
Baseline Response	2.2	4	55%
Baseline Recovery	0.2	2	10%
Total Number of Items		74	

Please note that Table 1 and Table 2 involve a different number of items measured at each time and comparisons should be made with caution.

Table 2.

Phase	Average Items Adopted	Max Items Possible	Checklist Status
Time 2 Teams	10.4	19	55%
Time 2 Prevent	21.0	41	51%
Time 2 Prepare	15.6	47	33%
Time 2 Response	2.2	4	55%
Time 2 Recovery	0.6	2	30%
Total Number of Items		113	

Please note that Table 1 and Table 2 involve a different number of items measured at each time and comparisons should be made with caution.

Table 3.

Phase	Average Items Adopted	Max Items Possible	Checklist Status
Time 3 Teams	10.4	19	55%
Time 3 Prevent	23.6	41	58%
Time 3 Prepare	18.2	47	39%
Time 3 Response	2.6	4	65%
Time 3 Recovery	0.6	2	30%
Total Number of Items		113	

Table 4.

Phase	Average Items Adopted	Max Items Possible	Checklist Status
Time 4 Teams	12.0	19	63%
Time 4 Prevent	28.4	41	69%
Time 4 Prepare	23.0	47	49%
Time 4 Response	3.0	4	75%
Time 4 Recovery	0.8	2	40%
Total Number of Items		113	

Table 5.

Phase	Average Items Adopted	Max Items Possible	Checklist Status
Time 5 Teams	13.0	19	68%
Time 5 Prevent	29.0	41	71%
Time 5 Prepare	25.2	47	54%
Time 5 Response	2.8	4	70%
Time 5 Recovery	1.0	2	50%
Total Number of Items		113	

Improvements in aspects of school safety at the pilot site schools appear to be associated with CSSRC and CSPV staff consultation, services and training with the pilot site school staff. However, without a formal evaluation using an experimental design we cannot determine with precision whether or how much these efforts improved their school's level of safety.

Pilot site schools may have obtained training or services in the area of school safety outside of the Pilot Site Project which could also have contributed to changes. Nonetheless, CSSRC and CSPV staff worked specifically with the pilot site schools to emphasize the importance of having the various school safety teams as well as experience and knowledge in the four phases of emergency management and crisis response.

Over all these data indicate a movement in the right direction for all aspects of emergency management and crisis response. The economic down turn during this Pilot Site Project resulted in considerable budget cuts that resulted in doing more with less, making it difficult to justify spending time on anything more than academic performance despite its correlation to school safely and a positive school climate. Despite the economic downturn and its impediments, staff from most of the pilot sites were eager to participate in the school safety and emergency management trainings when offered.

SCHOOL CLIMATE METHODOLOGY

As part of the Pilot Site Project, schools were asked to administer a school climate survey on an annual basis to complete Step 2 of the Safe Communities~Safe School Implementation Model (see Figure 2.).

Figure 2.

Safe Communities~Safe Schools Implementation Model

This Model takes a data driven approach to creating a positive school climate. The first step is to begin with a team and establish a purpose. The purpose can range from maintaining a positive school climate to confirming a suspected problem behavior among the students, staff or parents from the school. Regardless of the purpose, the

task requires a team that can consist of an already established team such as a Response to Intervention Team (RTI) or a Positive Behavior Support Team (PBS). The next step is to assess the school's strengths and needs. This can be done with a variety of instruments including collecting the school's discipline data, school climate survey data and a more extensive school safety assessment. This section of the report focuses on the pilot site schools' climate survey data. Once the school's strengths and challenges are identified the next step is to identify and implement evidence-based strategies to address their challenge while drawing on their strengths. Step four is to determine the expected outcomes the school staff would like to see based on the programs/strategies chosen. The last step is to monitor and evaluate whether their efforts had the intended results.

SURVEY METHODS

School staff administered a climate survey to their students during the same time period once a year for three years; one school administered surveys a fourth year. In some cases staff and parents were also surveyed; this report focuses on the student data due to the lack of consistency in the administration of the staff and parent surveys. CSPV staff assisted pilot sites school staff with the survey administration during the spring or fall of the following academic years 2008/2009, 2009/2010, 2010/2011, 2011/12. The surveys were administered by school staff in computer labs. However we worked with one school to find an alternative to administering surveys in their computer labs; surveys were administered on their own time with incentives and also using a paper version of the survey. Students in grades 3rd through 12th grade completed the surveys. The survey results were intended to be administered for the internal purposes of the school rather than for research purposes. The protocol for this project was submitted to the Internal Review Board at the University of Colorado and was deemed "Not Research"; however, CSPV continues to maintain the confidentiality of the participating schools and the anonymity of its survey participants.

This report is strictly descriptive and cannot be considered an evaluation of the Pilot Site Project. There is no comparison group and therefore we cannot be certain whether the results could have happened without our work with the schools or as a general state or national trend.

SURVEY SAMPLE

Only five schools participated in this project: one elementary school; one middle school; and three high schools. Due to the small sample size, the different age groups and the difference in instruments used at the primary and secondary levels the school climate data cannot be aggregated and summarized for all the sites. This report provides the highlights of the results among the pilot sites; the specific sites are not named when highlights are presented. Individual pilot site results cannot be reported to maintain the confidentiality of their results.

Table 11 shows the student survey participation rates by year. Staff at all the pilot site schools achieved a response rate of 64%, 61% and 75% for each year from 2009 to 2011, respectively. Four of the five schools captured a response rate of over 70% for most measurement occasions and were able to consider the findings representative of

their student population; one school's response rates ranged from 33% to 56% bringing the overall average down.

Table 11. All Pilot Site Response Rates by Year

Year	Eligible Students	Number of Student Surveys	Response Rate
Spring 2009	1504	745	50%
Fall 2009	4723	3028	64%
Fall 2010	4491	2731	61%
Fall 2011	4354	3280	75%
Total	15072	9784	62%

A total of 9,784 students were surveyed from 2009 to 2011 with an overall response rate of 62%. Staff and parents of the pilot sites were also surveyed on occasion but not consistently due to staff time constraints because of the many surveys that staff were already required to take. It's important to note that when surveys were administered to the students, staff and parents the findings were very similar.

CLIMATE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

SCHOOL PROFILE-SURVEY SCALES

Each school received a report of results that included a school profile intended to provide a summary of their school's risk and protective factors divided into the following attitudinal and behavioral topic areas, many of which include subscales:

- Positive School Climate
- Attitudes Favorable Toward Violence, Gun Violence and Substance Use
- Mental Health Needs
- Problem Behaviors
- Protective Factors
- Prosocial Behavior

This report includes highlights from the Pilot Sites' reports.

POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE

Several findings are notable from the Pilot Sites' reports.
- Students from all the Pilot Sites reported that there was a positive school climate at their school; ratings were in the "usually true" (elementary) or "agree" (middle/high) range.
- Ratings of overall school climate stayed about the same with the exception of two schools where:
  - the school climate increased significantly from 2009 to 2010 and maintained its increase through the 2011 school year; the increase from 2009 to 2011 was also significant; and
  - the school climate increased significantly then decreased back to its original levels.

The data in the table below show the changes from the school that increased its positive school climate and maintained that change over the course of the project.

SCALE Interpretation			
Elementary Scale Interpretation			
1 "NO" Never or Almost Never True "	2 "no" Not Usually True	3 "yes" Usually True	4 "YES" Always or Almost Always True
Middle/High School Interpretation			
1 "Strongly Disagree"	2 "Disagree"	3 "Agree"	4 "Strongly Agree"

ATTITUDES	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
	Range 1-4			
Significant between years:	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2009 to 2011	
1. **Positive School Climate**	**3.22****	**3.37**	**3.39****	**3.34**
Positive feelings/attitudes towards school	3.22	3.30*	3.43**	3.30
Good condition of campus	3.20*	3.33	3.39**	3.30
Perceptions of safety and supervision	3.00**	3.18	3.17**	3.04
Students have positive relationships with peers	3.15	3.29	3.27	3.27
Positive feelings/attitudes towards diversity	3.10**	3.27	3.24*	3.31
Teacher support	3.49**	3.64	3.61*	3.58
Knowledge and fairness of discipline policies	3.18**	3.39	3.43**	3.34
Respect for authority	3.45*	3.61	3.64**	3.57

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

ATTITUDES FAVORABLE TOWARD VIOLENCE

In general, attitudes favorable toward violence stayed about the same or decreased at all the sites. At one school the attitudes increased then decreased resulting in no change during the third year of the project. The following table shows the change from one site where violent attitudes decreased significantly from 2009 to 2010 and maintained that decrease from 2009 to 2011.

SCALE Interpretation			
1 "Strongly Disagree"	2 "Disagree"	3 "Agree"	4 "Strongly Agree"

ATTITUDES	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
	Range 1-4			
Significant between years:	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2009 to 2011	
2. **Violent attitudes and Moral Disengagement**	**2.19****	**2.04**	**1.99****	**2.01**
Peer acceptability of aggression	2.28	2.25	2.21	2.27
Acceptability of aggression	2.14	2.12	2.07	2.09
Moral disengagement	2.16	2.17	2.11	2.10
Attitudes favorable toward gun violence		1.6*	1.51	1.53

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

When asked about feelings of depression youth at all middle and high schools scored in the "a little" range. For one site the average scale score decreased significantly from 2010 to 2011 and from 2010 to 2012.

SCALE Interpretation			
0 "Not At All"	1 "A Little"	2 "Some"	3 "A Lot"

ATTITUDES	2010	2011	2012	Colorado
	Range 0-3			
Significant between years:	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012	2010 to 2012	
4. Feelings of Depression	.82*	.69	.63**	.95

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

BEHAVIOR	2010	2011	2012	Colorado
	Range 0-1			
Significant between years:	2010 to 2011	2011 to 2012	2010 to 2012	
5. Suicide Risk	8.63%*	3.87%	5.91%	9.71%

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

The percentage of students reporting signs of suicide during the project ranged from 3.87% to 14% for all students in the pilot sites. The table above shows a significant decrease at a school changing from 8.63% in 2010 to 3.87% in 2011. The percentages were lower than self-reports among other high school students taking the survey in Colorado.

PROBLEM BEHAVIORS

Problem behaviors among students stayed about the same at all the Pilot Sites with the exception of a few notable decreases and a few notable increases. The following table includes the data from one school that had the most notable decreases.

Problem behaviors among students at this school showed a general decrease from 2009 to 2011. Significant decreases were found for delinquency, perpetration of aggression, being a victim of aggression and being threatened by a weapon. Additionally, substance use, truancy, gang participation and the presence of gangs among students at this school showed a steady decrease from 2009 to 2011. Substance use decreases were significant for cigarette use (life-time; last 30 days; on school property), alcohol use (last 30 days) and drug use (life-time & last 30 days). However, there was also a significant increase in alcohol use at school in the last 30 days. Decreases in truancy among students at this school decreased significantly from 2010 to 2011 and from 2009 to 2011. The largest decrease in problem behavior was for self-reported gang participation and the presence of gangs with a significant decrease from 45.18% in 2009 to 35.66% in 2010 and 29.60% in 2011; all decreases were statistically significant.

BEHAVIOR	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
		Range 0-1		
Significant between years:	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2009 to 2011	
6. Delinquency, Violence & Victimization†				
Delinquency-Last 12 months	18.59%	18.70%**	12.33%**	15.75%
Perpetration of aggression-Last 12 months	17.97%*	15.65%*	13.10%**	13.94%
Victim of aggression-Last 12 months	16.74%**	12.48%	9.96%**	14.88%
Bullying victimization-Last 2 months	18.34%	17.11%	16.45%	19.10%
Bullying perpetration-Last 2 months	14.59%	13.35%	11.85%	11.38%
Teen dating violence-Last 12 months		6.81%	5.21%	6.17%
7. Weapon carrying				
Carried a gun – Last 30 days	9.40%	7.76%	5.88%	8.70%
Carried a gun for protection–Last 30 days	7.18%	7.25%	6.54%	5.24%
Carried a gun on school property–Last 30 days	4.69%	4.10%	6.21%	2.71%
Carried a weapon on school property-Last 30 days	7.80%	7.98%	7.21%	7.39%
Was threatened/injured with weapon at school–Last 12 months	10.46%	7.94%	6.51%*	6.39%
Threatened/injured someone with a weapon at school-Last 12 months	6.81%	5.42%	5.18%	3.73%
8. Substance Use†				
Cigarette use–Ever Used-Life time	43.83%**	37.57%	34.64%**	44.12%
Alcohol use–Ever Used-Life time	73.52%	69.70%	69.50%	71.68%
Drug use–Ever Used-Life time	32.23%	31.28%*	27.07%**	29.46%
Cigarette use–Last 30 days	23.94%**	17.40%	16.67%**	24.66%
Alcohol use– Last 30 days	45.27%**	38.70%	39.38%*	41.20%
Drug use– Last 30 days	20.00%	18.47%**	14.55%**	15.79%
Under the influence of alcohol at school-Last 30 days	6.36%	7.72%	7.69%	5.01%
Under the influence of drugs at school-Last 30 days	10.65%	8.48%	8.36%	8.32%
Cigarette use on school property-Last 30 days	9.25%	8.12%	5.32%**	9.05%
Using alcohol at school-Last 30 days	6.79%	9.33%	10.71%*	4.99%
Using drugs at school-Last 30 days	6.74%	7.43%	5.80%	6.36%
9. Truancy–Last 30 days	**48.86%**	**49.70%****	**41.04%****	**37.16%**
10. Gang Participation and Presence of Gangs	**45.18%****	**35.66%****	**29.60%****	**17.91%**

†Overall scale scores for violence and victimization and substance use cannot be calculated due to the different time frames (e.g. last 12 months, last 2 months, life time use, last 30 days use).
*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

Although most problem behaviors across pilot sites stayed the same or decreased, there were some behaviors that increased. The bullets below list the significant increases among the pilot sites.

- There was a significant increase in truancy at one school.
- Drug use in the last 30 days increased significantly at one school.
- Using alcohol at school in the last 30 days increased significantly at two schools.
- Being under the influence of alcohol at school increased at one school.
- Being under the influence of drugs at school increased at one school.
- Carried a gun in the last 30 days increased significantly at one school (no significant increase at school).
- Fighting at school increased significantly at one school.
- Physical activity decreased significantly at two schools.
- Fear of being unsafe at school increased significantly at two schools.
- Binge drinking (having 5 or more drinks of alcohol within 2 hours) in the last 30 days increased at one school.
- Using marijuana in the last 30 days increased at one school.

Protective Factors

Protective factors among students in the pilot sites stayed about the same across all the pilot sites with no statistically significant changes over time. The table below provides the data from one pilot site.

SCALE Interpretation			
1 "Strongly Disagree"	2 "Disagree"	3 "Agree"	4 "Strongly Agree"

	ATTITUDES	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
		Range 1-4			
	Significant between years:	2009 to 2010	2010 to 2011	2009 to 2011	
11.	**Protective Factors**	**3.02**	**2.99**	**2.97**	**2.99**
	Bonding time with family	3.00	2.98	3.00	2.97
	Parental control and monitoring	3.13	3.09	3.05	3.08
	Parents value and encourage prosocial behavior	2.99	2.95	2.95	2.95
	Trusting Relationships	2.96	2.96	2.89	3.00
12.	**Value on Health**	**3.09**	**2.95**	**3.00**	**2.95**

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

SCALE Interpretation				
1 "Almost Never"	**2** "Once in a While"	**3** "Sometimes"	**4** "Often"	**5** "Almost Always"

	ATTITUDES	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
			Range 1-5		
	Significant between years:	**2009 to 2010**	**2010 to 2011**	**2009 to 2011**	
13.	**High self-efficacy**		**3.32**	**3.45**	**3.56**
	Academic self-efficacy	3.39**	3.20	3.29	3.38
	Self-regulatory self-efficacy		3.73	3.75	3.93
	Emotional self-efficacy		3.31	3.32	3.38

Youth at this school indicated that they "sometimes" had high self-efficacy. Students reported higher scores on self-regulatory self-efficacy than academic or emotional self-efficacy. Academic self-efficacy decreased significantly from 2009 to 2010. The scores were generally lower than the scores for other high school students in Colorado that took the survey.

PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR

	PROTECTIVE FACTORS	2009	2010	2011	Colorado
	Prosocial Behavior		Average % Yes		
	Significant between years:	**2009 to 2010**	**2010 to 2011**	**2009 to 2011**	
14.	**Uses injury prevention strategies**		**26.02%**	**27.28%**	**27.14%**
15.	**Prosocial involvement**		**41.75%**	**42.02%**	**37.75%**
	Involvement in school activities		37.83%	38.65%	33.06%
	Involvement in community activities		46.18%	45.30%	42.38%

*significant p<.05; **significant p<.01

Prosocial behavior and using injury prevention strategies stayed about the same from 2010 to 2011. The students' self-reported prosocial involvement at most pilot sites stayed about the same or decreased. There was a significant decrease in involvement in school activities at one school and a significant increase in community activities at another school.

DISCUSSION

CSPV staff worked with each of the schools to administer a school climate survey that covered both behavioral measures as well as attitudinal measures of school climate that previous research has shown to be associated with improving academic achievement. In addition, CSPV staff worked with schools to administer staff and parent school climate surveys, where feasible. These data were used to help guide schools in their efforts to prevent and intervene in problem behaviors to create a positive school climate. CSPV staff also provided each school with an Evidence-based Program Report (see Appendix C) of options to consider to address the priorities identified by school staff after reviewing their survey results. To our knowledge Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) and Check and Connect, Incredible Years, the Mental Health Screener and Safe2Tell were the only evidence-based programs from our Evidence-based Programs Reports that were implemented during the project. Other programs that appear to have made a targeted difference but were not evidence-based due to a lack of evaluation included Discovery and Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP). Due to a lack of funding for evidence-based programs, combined with the economic downturn that occurred during the Pilot Site Project we did not see an overall increase in the implementation of Model Programs that have been shown to have the greatest effects on problem behaviors. A few schools implemented programs that were Promising Programs or listed as an evidence-based program by other reputable sites. Schools assessed their school climate and implemented strategies to address their prioritized problems behaviors but there were limited resources available to implement evidence-based programs as suggested in Step 3 of our Safe Communities~Safe Schools Implementation Model. Schools across the nation, and in Colorado, are struggling to do more with less, particularly after continued budget cuts; however, school staff are becoming more aware of the importance of using a data-driven approach to improving school safety, problem behaviors in schools, school climate and academic achievement. Although we were not able to move into the implementation phase of CSPV's Safe School Process, we continue to assist schools with school violence prevention planning, assessment and technical assistance on evidence-based violence prevention programming. We hope that schools can secure funding to implement evidence-based programs and strategies to address their challenges. At the very least schools can continue to use their data to understand and monitor their strengths and needs and use the data for grant writing and fund raising purposes. Schools were also able to take advantage of free training and consultation in the four phases of crisis management.

LESSONS LEARNED

- School staff are eager to implement school safety and violence prevention strategies when presented to them and they do not require lots of time and effort.
- Model and Promising evidence-based prevention programs that have been shown to work are difficult for school staff to implement due to the costs and time that is required to implement them.

- Using a data driven approach helps school staff monitor their strengths and challenges and can help them implement strategies and programs to address their challenges.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Creating a positive school climate is the most effective strategy for reducing the risk of violence in schools.
- A good information gathering mechanism such as Safe2Tell is an essential element in creating a positive school climate.
- Evidence-based programs should be selected for known effects on particular risks and protective factors for specific age groups to have the greatest effect.
- Implement programs with fidelity to achieve the greatest effect.
- If school staff decide to use a program that is not certified as evidence-based or if they choose to implement an innovative program they should evaluate the effects of the program.
- Do no harm; don't use programs that have been found to be ineffective or harmful.

TRAININGS AND NEWSLETTERS

CSSRC and CSPV staff also collaborated on regional trainings and newsletters during the project. From the beginning of the project we provided eight regional trainings across the state and wrote, mailed or emailed 14 newsletters. The trainings were provided free to all school staff in Colorado; partners of school safety teams were also in attendance. The newsletters, when mailed, were sent to approximately 3,300 individuals including school principals, school superintendents, Safe and Drug Free School Coordinators, police departments, sheriffs' offices, fire chiefs, mental health centers, the Colorado General Assembly, and CSSRC Advisory Board members. Most recent newsletters were emailed to the current list of emails of the same types of recipients. These resources provided the latest information about school safety and school violence prevention efforts.

SUMMARY

From December 1, 2009 through June 30, 2012, the CSSRC's Pilot Site Project worked with pilot site schools with the goal of improving safety at their schools. CSSRC contracted with CSPV to help them provide a variety of safe school planning efforts, particularly in the area of assessing school climate strengths and needs and using a data driven approach to addressing their needs. All pilot site schools appeared to improve their level of accomplished tasks with respect to the U.S. Department of Education's four phases of crisis management.

In general, the pilot sites' school climate stayed about the same, most problem behaviors stayed the same or decreased. Although there were some changes in the negative direction those changes were small in comparison to the positive changes that occurred at all the sites. These results are not surprising due to a lack of funding for evidence-based programs and huge budget cuts. School staff were expected to do more with less, focus on academic performance, and class sizes increased over this time period. School staff nonetheless understand and appreciate the importance of using a data driven approach to violence prevention and can continue to use these informational resources in the future.

Finally, it is important to remember that this report is strictly descriptive and cannot be considered an evaluation of the pilot site project. There is no comparison group and therefore we do not know whether the results could have happened without our work with the schools or as a general state or national trend.