

South Dakota Suicide Prevention Newsletter

October - December 2026



Supporting Funeral Homes



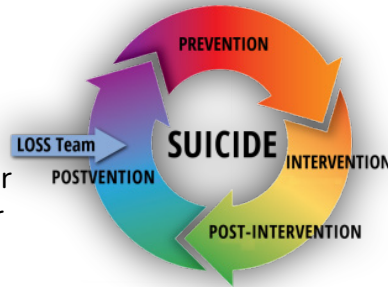
Funeral directors are often one of the first contacts that families encounter after a suicide loss. During this incredibly difficult and overwhelming time, it is important to have the right information and support in those early moments.

The South Dakota Suicide Prevention website has launched a new Funeral Homes webpage featuring resources to support funeral directors and their staff as they navigate the unique challenges of working with deaths by suicide. Find the Funeral Homes webpage [here](#).

Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team

The Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team is a program that supports suicide loss survivors to provide support in the immediate aftermath of a suicide death. Many survivors wait up to five years before getting support after a suicide loss. The LOSS Team is able to respond either in-person (county dependent) or by phone support when notified that a survivor needs support. The support provided includes grief information, referrals to resources, and continued follow up support, free of cost.

There are currently three active LOSS Teams across South Dakota, in Rapid City, covering Pennington County, Spearfish covering Northern Black Hills communities and Sioux Falls covering Minnehaha county and surrounding eastern South Dakota regions. LOSS Teams are made up of suicide loss survivors and mental health professionals. To request the LOSS Team, call 988.



2025 Suicide Data in South Dakota

Finalized 2025 data confirms 214 suicide deaths in South Dakota, the highest number ever recorded in the state. Suicide was the leading cause of death for youth and young adults ages 10-29. Behind these numbers are real people, families, and communities impacted by suicide. This record-high number is a sobering reminder that we all have a role to play in prevention. Whether it's participating in a training, bringing a toolkit into your workplace, or keeping suicide prevention awareness materials visible in your community, every effort matters. Together, we can help raise awareness, strengthen support, and prevent future loss.

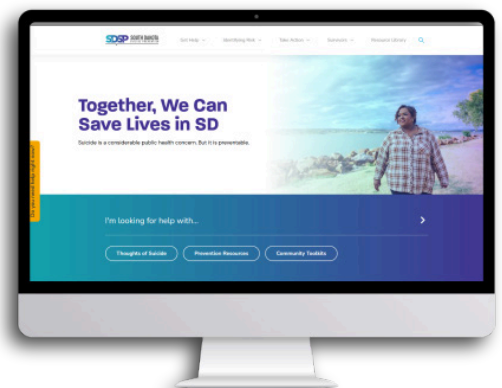
Events

For information on Survivor Support Groups across South Dakota, [click here](#).

For more information or to add an event, visit the SDSP [Events Page](#).

International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day

Saturday, November 21st is International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day. International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day was created for those impacted by suicide loss to come together for healing and support. Every year, Survivors Day falls on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. There are events happening in [Aberdeen](#) and [Belle Fourche](#), as well virtual events happening through [American Foundation for Suicide Prevention](#).



For more information on suicide prevention in South Dakota, visit [sdsuicideprevention.org](https://www.sdsuicideprevention.org), or click the picture.

