safe ² tell Nevada

tip report flowchart

S2T uses P3 cloud-based software with autofill and dropdown boxes. Tips come through hotline, text, mobile app, or website. The reports display dialog between reporter and DPS, type of incident, and location. Reports are shared with all team members.

S2T Report received by DPS, live 24/7

Active threat of school violence or suicide to local (& district) law enforcement 24/7

Active suicide risk to Crisis Call Hotline 24/7- (possibly active mental health crisis to Mobile Crisis Outreach Team)

District response protocol

School Multi-Disciplinary Team receives report and responds timely during school hours

Exact member roles will be decision of team

Resource Officer	Administrator	Social Worker &/or Counselor	Counselor &/or Social Worker
• school violence • drugs and other illegal activity	• leadership • bullying • discipline • parent communication	• connect with student • screen, assess, refer as necessary • connect to school and community resources • warm hand off & follow up	• connect with student • screen, assess, refer as necessary • academic, behavioral, and social support • connect to resources

Communication – parents, guardians, teachers, other school and team members

Action: Team member closes report in S2T (P3) system, three clicks in drop down boxes

Action: Team member enters information in Infinite Campus per school protocol, continues follow-up

Reason: These data will be used to evaluate the success of S2T. P3 allows users to quickly and accurately pull data, statewide and by district and school upon request, on types of student concerns and threats to school safety, without districts having to pull reports for NDE.

Reason: Many districts have connected their school forms, such as bullying investigation and parent letters, to Infinite Campus; also, IC is being enhanced to allow documentation of student referrals to supports (PBIS/MTSS) and community services. IC data will help demonstrate the success of S2T as well as show the need for and benefit of resource officers, counselors, social workers; IC will also collect data necessary to compete for and participate in federal and state grants. The MDT begins the process of connecting students with specific needs to the system of Integrated Student Supports (AB275).

Questions? Contact S2T NV Co-coordinator Sarah Adler at sarahmadler@gmail.com or 775.742.3222
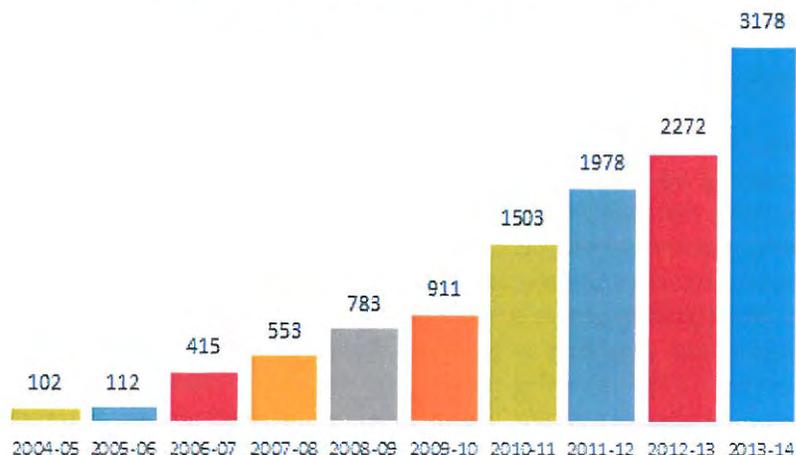
Safe2Tell: A Model Prevention Initiative

Safe2Tell was founded on the idea that prevention and early intervention is the key to preventing violence and saving lives. The model safety and prevention initiative, Safe2Tell, was developed on the principals of educating young people and school staff on critical issues, encouraging them to be part of the solution of prevention, equipping them with a tangible direct way to report anonymously and empowering them to make a difference. Bringing a proactive plan of reporting to focus, the Safe2Tell model allows for early interventions to take place in regards to behaviors identified as precipitators to violence and for those behaviors that endanger the health and well-being of youth. The strategy framework established by the model provides for the sharing of information in a sophisticated way to the local responders and schools, builds a system that establishes best practices for schools to identify a team response along with law enforcement partners, encourages training and providing CEU's, and establishes methods for accountability and follow-up on each and every report, reducing liability to the individual schools and providing a way to effectively measure outcomes.

How It Became Safe2Tell:

Safe2Tell began as a school safety initiative of Colorado, providing a tangible solution combining extensive research conducted by the U.S. Secret Service Study on school shootings[1], a bystander study conducted by the U.S. Department of Education[2], and recommendations from the Columbine Commission's Report[3]. Combining the findings of these studies, Safe2Tell developed a comprehensive prevention initiative combined with direct tangible means of reporting at a live answering point at Colorado State Patrol. On September 14, 2004, the original Safe2Tell prevention initiative began after a safe school hotline established after Columbine was deemed less than effective. Since launching successful anonymous bystander tip reporting system, the number of reports collected has grown exponentially each year. During the 2004-05 school year, 102 tip reports were received; in 2013-14, that number grew to 3,178 reports resulting in an intervention at the local level by responders and school officials, a 3,015% increase.

Total Safe2Tell Tips Received Per School Year

Moving beyond nearly providing an anonymous tipline, Safe2Tell began developing the complimentary core components to an overall safety strategy. Safe2Tell developed an educational component of the model strategy in order to effect change in attitudes of reporting with the use of a classroom guided discussions. Safe2Tell works to build a culture and climate of respect and a willingness to report among young people. Through partnerships at the local level involving schools, first responders and parents, Safe2Tell has incorporated education, through

[1] Vossekuil, Reddy, Borum, Modzeleski; United State Secret Service and United State Department of Education; *Final Report on The Safe School Initiative: Implications for the Prevention of School Attacks in the United States*, 2002

[2] Pollack, Modzeleski, & Rooney ; United State Secret Service and United State Department of Education; *Prior Knowledge of Potential School-Based Violence: Information students learn may prevent a targeted attack*, 2008

[3] Columbine Review Commission, *Final Report to Governor Owens*; www.state.co.us/**columbine**/, May 2001

classroom guided discussions focused on awareness of current and emerging issues facing young people, into the overall prevention model. Addressing the code of silence that exists in our culture, increasing the surveillance of our youth and citizens, along with reporting suspicious behavior, mental health concerns, and behavioral concerns in a way that provides a two-way dialogue is critical to improve the welfare of young people and to effectively intervene early. When necessary, Safe2Tell provides the methods for schools and law enforcement to assess, treat, investigate and establish a boundary, conduct an assessment, or plan for the monitoring of a threatening situation and behavior. The strategy set by Safe2Tell produces strong surveillance skills among bystanders; teaching young people and adults what to watch for, what to listen for and what not to ignore. The overarching goal of Safe2Tell is to change attitudes of reporting, engage bystanders to be a part of the solution, and build a culture and climate of respect.

How the Safe2Tell Tip Reporting Works:

Safe2Tell's tip reporting resource success is simple. Both state law along with protocols and procedures established by Safe2Tell for receiving and forwarding tips guarantees the anonymity of every caller. Safe2Tell provides a safe, easy way for youth and adults to report information about any issues that concern their safety or the safety of others, in schools or in communities. Anonymity is guaranteed by law; there is no caller ID and callers' names are not asked. Students know long before adults do, what's occurring in their schools and in communities – including fighting and bullying, substance abuse, dangerous and concerning behaviors, threats, depressions, suicide, and self-injury: either witnessed in-person or online.

Safe2Tell is available to all Colorado schools, students, teachers, and parents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Reports can be made to Safe2Tell by calling 1-877-542-SAFE (7233). Reports can also be submitted through Safe2Tell's website at www.safe2tell.org or by text (limited to Jeffco, Denver Public, and Adams 12 Five Star School Districts). Calls to Safe2Tell are answered by the Colorado State Patrol and a trained communications officer collects information for the report and assigns a code number to the reporting party. Every tip submitted to Safe2Tell is thoroughly investigated after being given to the appropriate school and/or law enforcement agency.

5afe2Tell uses a unique and highly sophisticated database program that allows for two-way dialogue between the reporting party and the answering point. All information is encrypted, allowing for complete anonymity. In addition, the Safe2Tell web-reporting option allows reporting parties to upload photos and social media posts which aid law enforcement in conducting thorough investigations of cyber-bullying and suicide threats. Safe2Tell reports and disposition reports are available to law enforcement, if requested. Many times these reports help aid in investigations where a student has moved from one district to another and an officer needs crucial past information regarding a potential threat. Officers can also request Safe2Tell to pose a two-way dialogue question to the reporting party, if specific information is needed in an investigation. The sophistication of the Safe2Tell database system is ever-evolving and helps to identify trends of violence in schools and communities.

How the Core Components of the Overall Safe2Tell Strategy Work:

The strategy developed from the Safe2Tell model prevents tragedy and save lives. Safe2Tell works to change attitudes by providing resources around the state of Colorado to educate, equip, empathize with, empower, and engage youth. Safe2Tell accomplishes this intelligence gathering strategy through early intervention and prevention through awareness, education and accountable follow-up.

Education and Awareness

- **Train the Trainer Certifications and Staff Trainings:** Safe2Tell developed a training program that certifies individuals and leaders to present Safe2Tell information, materials, and classroom discussion materials to their own communities. Safe2Tell provides expert trainings to school staff, school safety resource officers, counselors, administrators and law enforcement establish standards and best practices for violence prevention.
- **Conversation Jumpstarts:** In conjunction with Children's Hospital, Safe2Tell developed educational

curriculum, providing trained counselors and school resource officers a tangible tool to lead guided classroom discussions. Available *Conversation Jumpstart* topics include bullying, cyber bullying, dating, sexting, weapons, dating, depression, and substance abuse. While discussing issues, trainers talk about the code of silence, when it is appropriate to make a report, and what happens when a report is made.

- **Videos:** The best way to reach students is often with a visual story. Safe2Tell has provided the framework for many schools to best reach their students using customized videos that promote the messages of Safe2Tell and show caring, committed adults at their schools.
- **Student Awareness Campaign:** Promoting Safe2Tell goes beyond a poster on the wall. By combining direct messaging along with relevant promotional materials, Safe2Tell is able to effectively spread the Safe2Tell message and tip line number to thousands of students each year. Data shows that more Safe2Tell tip reports come from schools that incorporate the Safe2Tell solution in all practices.
- **Communications and Resources:** Safe2Tell works to serve as the resource center for schools when dealing with issue regarding school safety, youth violence and dangerous behaviors, prevention initiatives, and best practices. Safe2Tell has established relationships with schools, staff, partner agencies, and law enforcing and provides each of these entities support, communications, resources and assistance.

Prevention and Early Intervention

- **Intervening at the school level at the earliest opportunity by caring, committed adults:** The Safe2Tell model provides students with the opportunity to seek help, guidance and counseling from a trusted source before a situation grows out of control. Safe2Tell offers education and training to adults on identifying at-risk behaviors in students and creating safe learning environments.
- **Sharing information:** Through collaborative relationships, Safe2Tell has key roles in developing blueprint models of safety policies and providing wraparound services to students. Safe2Tell key leadership work closely with government agencies, non-profit partners, schools and law enforcement to provide awareness and education that encourage changes in attitudes and cultures that perpetrate incidences of violence.
- **Interagency Social Support Teams:** When a school receives a Safe2Tell report, they have pre-identified a team of professionals who can assist with intervention and connecting to appropriate resources. Safe2Tell maintains current contact information for teams at the school level to be notified when a tip is received, a process developed through the implementation of the Safe2Tell strategy. This multidisciplinary team provides acknowledgement of the receipt of the information and a system of checks and balances.

Accountability and Follow-up

- **Disposition Reports:** With each report received, Safe2Tell goes the extra step and follows up with the school that received the tip to ensure that it was investigated and that action was taken.
- **Reducing liability:** Working with teams, following-up on each report, and ensuring appropriate steps have been taken are the crucial pieces that make the Safe2Tell solution successful.

Why Make It Safe2Tell:

Youth violence, according to the seminal Surgeon General's Report on Youth Violence, is a highly visible problem that affects all segments of our society. Because of its impact on victims, their friends and family, and society at large, youth violence has been designated a public health concern, thereby emphasizing the need for coordinated prevention efforts. Communities now focus on collaborative prevention efforts with support from multiple systems: justice, education, health, mental health, and human services. Safe2Tell provides a unique bridge between these agencies and the youth who may need help to avert an act of violence or injury.

Youth violence incorporates many different behaviors, including bullying, cyber bullying, sexting, animal cruelty, weapons, fire starting, dating violence, assault, homicide and suicide. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Injury Center, youth who are victims of violence or who witness violence in their
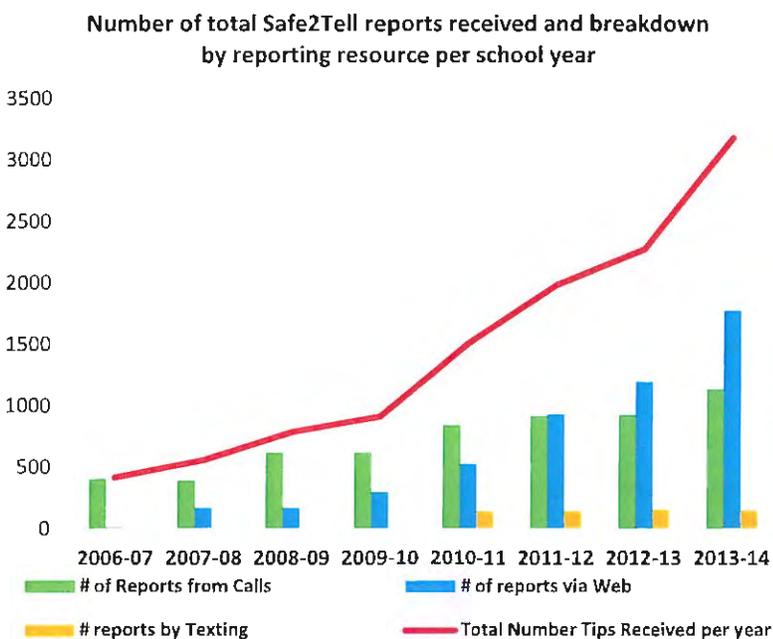
communities fall prey to not only injury or death in the worst instances, but other serious consequences like posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, and substance abuse. The annual costs associated with youth violence exceed $158 billion in the United States[4].

In addition to addressing issues surrounding violent behaviors, prevention and reporting programs are effective in other areas that limit youth's ability to succeed, such as bullying and substance abuse. High school dropouts are 3.5 times more likely to be arrested than high school graduates and more than eight times as likely to be incarcerated. Incarceration data shows that 80% of all inmates in a criminal justice facility enter with a substance abuse problem.[5] Young people are the first to know before adults when someone is engaging in risky or life threatening behaviors, but are often afraid to tell someone. When someone remains silent, the safety and lifetime successes of students are at stake.

In order to break the code of silence, the Safe2Tell solution works to improve the culture and climate of schools. Working with communities, Safe2Tell is working to change the philosophy that anyone can do what they want without others speaking up. A vital component is intentional conversations empowering children and teens to speak up, without fear of retaliation, embarrassment or labeling. Safe2Tell provides the promise of hope and help, with caring adults ready to intervene and advocate for their support.

Why this Approach:
Over the last 30 years a growing body of empirical research has shown that a positive and sustained school climate is associated with positive youth development, effective risk prevention and health promotion efforts, student learning and academic achievement, increased student graduation rates, and teacher retention. Since Safe2Tell is a strategy that positively impacts school climate, it is an effort worthy of funding. Research has shown that when students feel safe, they perform better academically and Safe2Tell provides that safety net. There is no better prevention program in Colorado that provides for a positive school climate and positive youth development.

Number of total Safe2Tell reports received and breakdown by reporting resource per school year

Legend: # of Reports from Calls, # of reports via Web, # reports by Texting, Total Number Tips Received per year

How Safe2Tell is Measuring Outcomes and Making an Impact:
The sheer number of increasing reports per year show the impact the Safe2Tell solution is having on breaking down the code of silence and demonstrates the change in culture and attitudes about reporting unsafe behaviors and situations. Measurable outcomes produced by the model, along with the results from the survey from the Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence, provide a foundation for the current data driven approach. From struggles with substance abuse to threats on a social media outlet, Safe2Tell makes a difference in the lives of young people and adults, who identify a risk or danger, reporting it so early intervention can occur.

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[4] Farrington, Welsh, Loeber, Stevens, Stouthamer-Loeber, & Cohen, Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice: *Costs of Juvenile Crime in Urban Areas: A Longitudinol Perspective*; 2008; 6; 3

[5] School Library Journal, *Crime Linked to Dropout Rates*, www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6590701.html, 8/27/2008

The best practices and data driven approach established by Safe2Tell has resulted in the following recommendations to Congress:

"Our best chance of early intervention to prevent serious violent tragedies like that in Newtown, CT is when we receive early information about suspicious or concerning behavior. We have learned that good surveillance and intelligence is a key violence prevention strategy. In four out of five school shootings examined by the U.S. Secret Service, someone knew the event was going to take place before it occurred. They also found that most attackers engaged in some behavior prior to the incident that raised concern or indicated a need for help.

This was the case in the Columbine tragedy. Recognizing that a number of significant red flags went unheeded, the Columbine Commission recommended the creation of an anonymous hot line where information about threatening behavior could be reported. Colorado then set up Safe2Tell, an anonymous reporting system ensuring that all Colorado students, parents, teachers and community members have access to a safe and anonymous way to report any safety concerns.

In the 13 years since Columbine we have also made significant progress in developing violence prevention and intervention programs that work, that allow us to intervene in the lives of troubled youth before violence becomes an option being considered. The best violence prevention begins early and continues through childhood and adolescence and we have tested effective programs to prevent violence throughout the life course.

Our nation clearly possesses the tools and knowledge needed to prevent much of the violence and to throw safety lines to those young people who already have been swept up in the currents of violence. To this point we have lacked the leadership, political will and funding to fully implement these models. Let us commit to changing this and putting what we know works into action."

-Dr. Del Elliott, Founding Director and Dr. Beverly Kingston, Director of the University of Colorado
Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence,
Recommendation for the Youth Violence Summit Convened
by Representative Bobby Scott, U.S. House of Representatives,
January 22, 2013