

# A Collaboration with the Arizona Department of Education



Arizona Project Bright  
Futures Program



# Arizona Project Bright Futures

**The Arizona Project Bright Futures Program is designed to support states with suicide prevention and early intervention strategies in:**

- **Schools**
- **educational institutions**
- **juvenile justice systems**
- **substance use programs**
- **mental health programs**
- **foster care systems**
- **pediatric health programs**
- **and other child and youth serving organizations**

**The target age is up to age 24**



# Positive Impact on Students



## **Enhanced Mental Health Support:**

- Funding enables schools to hire additional mental health professionals, ensuring students have access to necessary support

## **Access to Critical Programs:**

- Provides access to essential suicide prevention programs, providing vital resources to students

## **Improved Awareness and Education:**

- Funding allows for awareness campaigns and educational efforts, helping students and staff identify and address signs of suicide.

## **Reduced Strain on Resources:**

- Additional funding helps alleviate the workload on existing mental health professionals, improving overall effectiveness and preventing burnout

## **Targeted Rural Support:**

- Provides necessary resources to students in rural areas who face unique challenges, helping to mitigate risks associated with mental health issues

# Program Goals



## Increase

The **number of youth** serving organizations who are able to identify and work with youth at risk of suicide



## Increase

The **capacity** of clinical service providers to assess, manage, and treat youth at risk of suicide



## Improve

The **continuity of care** and follow-up of youth identified to be at risk for suicide, including those who have been discharged from emergency departments and inpatient psychiatric units.

# Cochise County Selected to Pilot the Arizona Project Bright Futures Program



**A similar state initiative that mirrors this effort is  
Arizona Project AWARE**

Project AWARE Campaigns and Outreach:

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) have engaged over 17,555 individuals through various campaigns and outreach activities.
- These efforts primarily focus on raising awareness about Project AWARE II, mental health, and suicide prevention, as well as providing information about community resources available to support mental health



# Arizona Project AWARE II

## Year 3 Impact Summary: 10/1/23 - 9/30/24



### Project Highlights

**5,153**

Mental Health Professionals & Community Members Trained

**Over 19,800**

Individuals Engaged through Campaign & Outreach Activities

**1,840**

Students Accessed Mental & Behavioral Health Services



#### Technical Assistance

The state team led **34** technical assistance meetings covering topics such as data tracking, creating systems & processes, and policies.



#### Partnerships & Collaborations

**6** new formal partnerships across the SEA and LEAs and **10** informal collaborations with multiple education and mental & behavioral health agencies.



#### Training

**60%** of individuals who completed an AWARE II training showed an increase in knowledge and confidence following the training.

### District Highlights



Glendale Union High School District

**46**

MH Professionals Trained

**499**

Community Members Trained

- **89%** of students referred (n=942) accessed services.
- Continued to focus on Parent University service delivery.
- Engaged over **8,947** students in regular wellness and mental health programs.



Maricopa Unified School District

**77**

MH Professionals Trained

**1,807**

Community Members Trained

- **51%** of students referred (n=146) accessed services.
- Continued to promote the Calm App for staff wellness.
- Engaged over **17,506** students in regular wellness and mental health programs.



Roosevelt Elementary School District

**441**

MH Professionals Trained

**1,432**

Community Members Trained

- **64%** of students referred (n=752) accessed services.
- Developed a Student Wellness Framework to inform key priorities and action areas.
- Engaged over **593** students in wellness programming.

Arizona Project  
Bright Futures  
Coordinator

Work in collaboration with Arizona Department of Education and Department of Health to develop Suicide curriculum and protocol for youth in the state of Arizona

Deliver awareness and prevention trainings to county schools and community organizations

Train school staff to deliver programming and ensure sustainability

Collect and report data

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# QUESTIONS?

