

# Safe and Supportive Schools Program

# **SCHOOL CHALLENGES**

Balancing school safety with the needs of a student, staff, or community member of concern is a complicated process. Guides and toolkits are not enough. School-based violence prevention teams need high-quality training that focuses on the knowledge and skills required to implement a Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) strategy with fidelity.

# SOLUTION: AT-RISK INTERNATIONAL SAFE AND SUPPORTIVE SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Developing and implementing a whole community approach to safety and support through a flexible multi-tiered system is critical. AT-RISK International's Safe and Supportive Schools Program is designed to meet the needs of K-12 school districts. The program is based on positive behavioral interventions and supports trauma-informed practices, evidence-based student threat assessment systems, positive school climate, and best practices used by the vast majority of the BTAM community. The program applies a prevention-based technical/adaptive framework to address safety challenges that facilitate sustainable change.

The BTAM process allows for a flexible public health approach to assess, intervene, and case manage students, staff, or community members of concern. The program combines the whole school-community recommended universal preventions with intensive interventions for high-need cases (National Research Council, 2014).

AT-RISK International Certified Threat Managers have trained hundreds of K-12 BTAM teams and educators on school safety and violence prevention. In addition, our lead trainer is a member of the National Center for School Safety cadre of K-12 threat assessment experts.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **Unites States Secret Service, National Threat Assessment Center**

"Threat assessment is the best practice for preventing targeted school violence" (2021).

### **National Association of School Psychologists**

"Knowing how to implement Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management effectively, and with fidelity, is critical to saving lives, enhancing school safety, and ensuring legal and ethical guidelines are followed" (2020).

# United States Departments of Education, Justice, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services

"School districts and individual schools should establish threat assessment teams and develop comprehensive targeted violence prevention programs" (2018).

## ENHANCING AND SUSTAINING SUCCESS

The program is customized to each state's laws and regulations guiding safety and support and each district's available resources. The program contains beginner to advanced BTAM training, resource mapping, and gap analysis of your existing violence prevention programs and emergency response plans, individualized threat management protocol development, assessment guides, and forms.

School districts with existing BTAM programs can request an audit of current violence prevention policies and procedures, advanced training on threat investigations, trauma-informed interviewing, and case management.

The program is customized to your training needs and contains a full complement of consultancy and training options. The range of possibilities includes organization-wide Learning Management System training modules, virtual instructor-led live or recorded webinars, or in-person instruction. In addition, the program provides ongoing technical assistance to facilitate the BTAM implementation process.

The program also provides a system to support annual refresher training, new members joining the team, and organization-wide self-paced workplace violence prevention training. In addition, the AT-RISK International Safe and Supportive Schools Program includes a federal and state-specific statutory analysis of requirements guiding threat assessment, school safety plans, audits, drills, school resource officers, violence prevention, discrimination, and anti-bullying laws. The statutory analysis informs the design of BTAM policies and protocols for your school district or campus.

AT-RISK International is a global protection agency specializing in security services for individuals and organizations. Our team of experts creates and maintains secure environments by providing threat analysis, protection, investigations, consulting, intelligence and security training services. Since 2003, our mission has been to discretely mitigate security threats before they occur. Through advanced research, analysis and preparations, we protect companies and individuals throughout the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, the Caribbean and Asia Pacific.









