

1. Proposed Course Name:

Suicide Risk Reduction

2. Brief Course Description:

When working with a behavioral health population, it is critical to be mindful of the fact that the rates of suicide attempts/completions are much higher than that of the general population. Indeed, some studies show the rate of suicide for people diagnosed with schizophrenia is twenty-four times higher than the general population. This course looks at warning signs, risk factors associated with increased risk and assessment of suicidality using the Suicide Severity Scale originally developed at Columbia University.

3. Learning Objectives: At the conclusion of this session participants will be able to:

- a. Define terms regarding self-harm and suicide
- b. List at least four warning signs which may reflect suicidal behavior
- c. Outline the procedures for identifying, assessing and responding to participant suicidality
- d. Summarize the steps when using the Suicide Severity Scale

4. Content level: Beginner-Advanced

5. Outline:

Welcome and overview	9:30-9:35 AM
Current terminology regarding suicide	9:35-9:50 AM
Behavioral Health population and statistics	9:50-10:10 AM
Traumatic exposure, suicidality and the brain	10:10-10:40 AM
Risks associated with suicidality	10:40-11:00 AM
Break	11:00-11:15 AM
Inside/Outside video: client experiences	11:15-11:35 AM
Warning signs and challenges	11:35-12:00 noon
Suicide Severity Rating Scale	12 noon-12:25 PM
Wrap up/summary	12:25-12:30 PM

6. Brief Bio

Dr. Strickland graduated from Bryn Mawr College with a Doctorate in Psychology and a focus on experimental research and neuroscience. Past positions include a faculty position at the Medical College of Pennsylvania and affiliate faculty positions at Widener University and Springfield College. He currently has guest lecturer privileges at the Bryn Mawr Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, the Rutgers School of Social Work and an affiliate professor position at Thomas Jefferson University, East Fall Campus in the Community and Trauma Counseling program. Dr. Strickland is the owner of Biobehavioral Education and Consultation, LLC.