



2022 Annual Report

Safe2Help is a free, non-punitive, effective state-wide school safety program that seeks to prevent bullying, mental health struggles, threats of violence, and anything impacting school safety. It provides a safe confidential environment for students to share information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Incidents

- 817 incidents in 2022
- 1,161 cumulative incidents since 2021

Top 5 Incidents in 2022

- Bullying/Harassment
- Drugs
- School Complaint
- Suicidal Ideation- Reported by another student
- Non-Safety Concern

22.4%
Districts
Registered

936
Schools
Participating

490,916
Students
Served

A SCHOOL SAFETY INITIATIVE

Safe2Help was a recommendation provided by the Illinois Terrorism Task Force's School Safety Working Group following the Stoneman Douglas High School tragedy in Parkland, Florida.

Due to the collaborative efforts of the School safety Working Group, the Student Confidential Reporting Act (Public Act 102-0752 of 2022) was signed into law in May 2022.

Safe2Help is a collaboration between the Illinois Emergency Management Agency, State Board of Education, Department of Human Services, Department of Children and Family Services, and the Illinois State Police. Public Act 102-0752 of 2022 , authorizes the creation, operation, and staffing of a helpline that:

- Operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year;
- Protects the confidentiality of the reporter's identity; and,
- Safeguards report information from Freedom of Information Act Requests (FOIA).

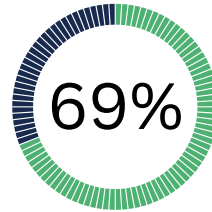


The Research

The 2021 United States Secret Service's Averting Targeted School Violence Report:



94% of the plotters shared their intentions about carrying out an attack through verbal statements, electronic messaging, and online posts



In 69% of the cases, communications about an attack plot were observed by friends, classmates, or other peers of the plotter.

Mission

In the absence of a trusted adult, Safe2Help offers students a safe, confidential way in which to share information that might help prevent suicides, bullying, school violence or other threats to school safety. This program is not intended to suspend, expel, or punish students. Rather, the goal is to get students to “Seek Help Before Harm.” Safe2Help has developed an Mental Health Toolkit aimed at changing the culture in Illinois schools while also providing the resources to help parents and educators reinforce the components of this program.

Goal

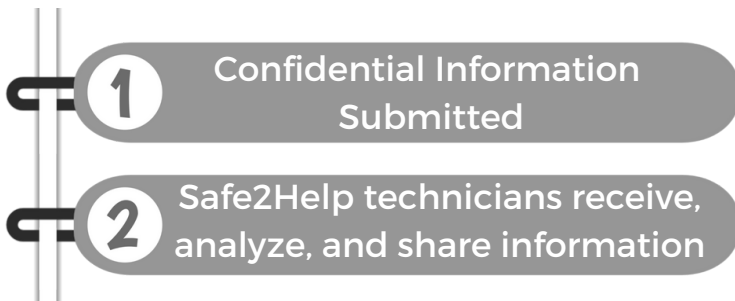
The goal of Safe2Help is to end the culture of silence so a student who is struggling can get needed help before a situation turns into a tragedy.

A SCHOOL SAFETY INITIATIVE

How to Share Information

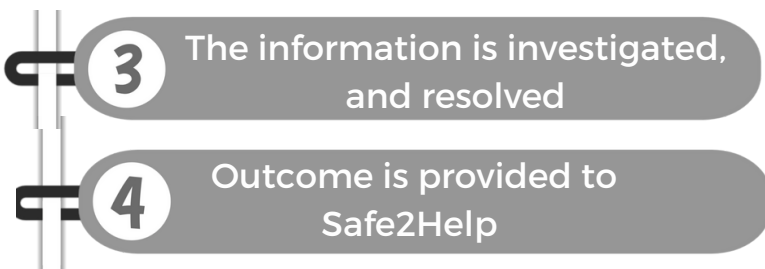
Submit and Receive

Students can confidentially send information on anything that impacts their safety or wellbeing.



Respond and Report

Information is shared with school and district officials. Depending on the nature of the information received, 9-1-1 call centers will be contacted to dispatch the appropriate response.



988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline



Safe2Help offers the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline as a resource for students through the helpline and website.

Safety is in Your Hands

Success Stories

Suicidal Ideation- Self Reported.

A student contacted Safe2Help with thoughts of depression and was experiencing a relapse and harming themselves again. The student was located and transported to the hospital for evaluation and treatment.

Child Abuse

A student shared that they were being abused by a parent. The information was shared with school officials and referred to law enforcement and Child and Family Services. The information shared was investigated and substantiated.

Threat of Planned School Attack

Safe2Help received information about a concerning social media post. The information was shared with school officials and referred to law enforcement. The student who made the post was disciplined.

THE DATA

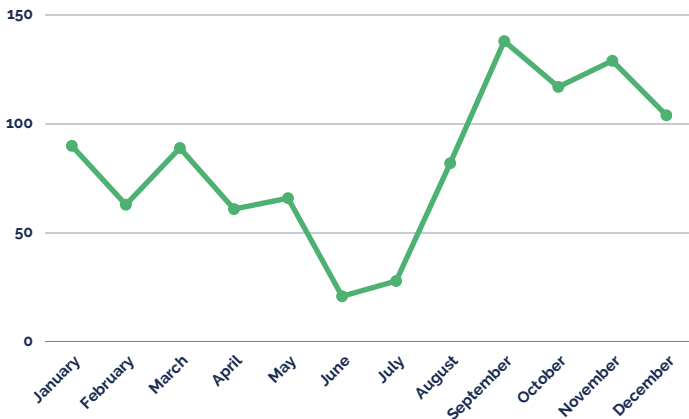
Public interactions for calendar year 2022 INCREASED MORE THAN 137% compared to 2021.



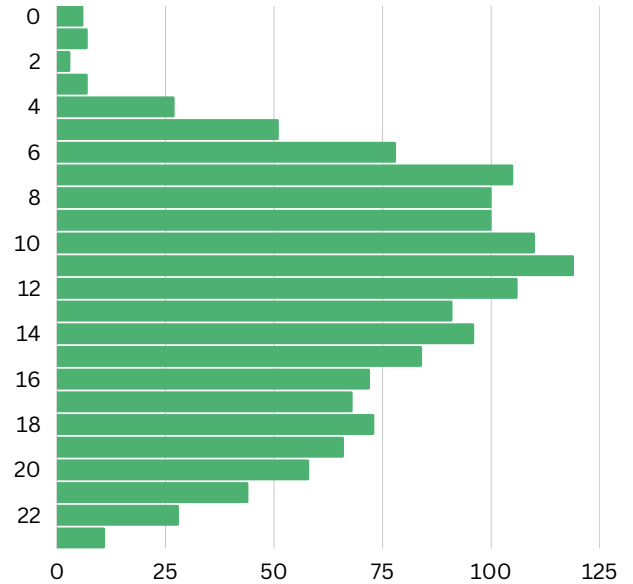
The increase in public interactions is likely attributed to several factors.

1. The program launched statewide on October 21, 2021.
2. Safe2Help saw a 253% increase in school districts registrations.
3. Students were more inclined to share information following school shootings in Uvalde, TX and St. Louis, MO.

Incidents by Month



Incidents by Time of Day



Dispositions



Schools are asked to share information to let us know how the process worked to evaluate the effectiveness of the response. This is a voluntary process.

As a result of information shared with the helpline, call center technicians or school officials forwarded:

- 110 incidents to law enforcement
- 17 incidents to mental health professionals, school counselors or school psychologists
- 7 incidents to Child and Family Services

DATA & TESTIMONIALS

Preferred Method of Sharing Information



37.1% Web Form



29.7% Text Message



14.9% Mobile Application



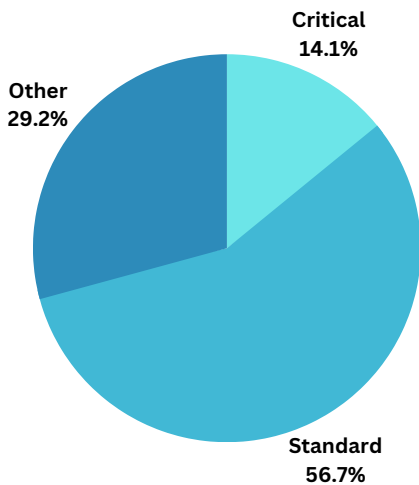
12.8% Email



5.5% Phone

In March 2022, Safe2Help upgraded the mobile app to include the self-help resources available on our website.

Incident Level



Definitions

Critical: Involve immediate or imminent threat of violence or potential self-harm such as but not limited to, threats of suicide and threats of planned school attack,

Standard: May include, but are not limited to; bullying, cyberbullying, vaping, or substance abuse.

Other: May include but, are not limited to; false reports, prank reports, requests for information, or misapplication of system.

Testimonials

"Safe2HelpIL is an important part of the support system that we have in place for our students to confidentially share information and receive appropriate assistance. Having a platform that is available 24/7, inclusive of all grade levels, and with the ability to communicate with multiple administrators and law enforcement means students receive timely help. We have the Safe2HelpIL app installed on student iPads district-wide, which allows our students immediate and consistent access. We truly appreciate being a part of this state-wide initiative to help support our school safety measures."

Tony DeMonte , Director of
Technology & Media Services
Wilmette District 39

"Safe2Help has provided our students with access to tools and resources necessary to increase social-emotional competency and accessing mental-health support for themselves and friends. Safe2Help has allowed students to access mental-health support quickly and confidentially. Safe2Help has ignited many conversations with students, staff and families to address the growing challenges that our students are facing in and out of school."

Dr. Marie K. Stover, Asst.
Superintendent of Student
Services, Morris Elementary SD 54

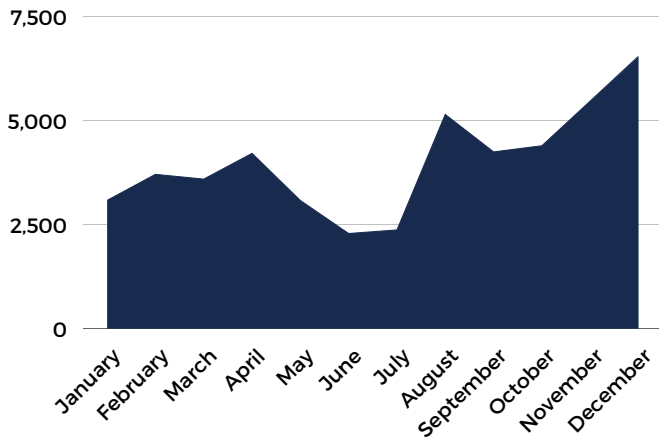
WEBSITE

Safe2Help Website

The Safe2Help website provides self-help resources for students and educators with activities, exercises, and videos to help address what students or their friends may be struggling with.

Student focus groups are utilized to drive topic and content creation. Currently, the Safe2Help website features ten self-help topics and ways students can help a friend. Content is developed by mental health professionals from Boys Town specifically for middle and high school students.

2022 Website Sessions



48,156

Total Website Sessions

TUESDAY

Popular day of week for website visits

10 AM

Popular hour for website visits

Top 5 Topics Searched

| Topic | Sessions |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Bullying | 2139 |
| Depression | 1205 |
| Suicidal Thoughts | 1084 |
| Abusive Relationships | 857 |
| Self Injury | 733 |

Video Content

In partnership with the University of Illinois Springfield, Safe2Help has created promotional and topic specific videos for students and educators to reinforce key messages and learnings from website self-help topics.

In May 2022 Safe2Help and the University of Springfield were awarded a Silver Telly in the Category of Social Video at the 43rd Annual Telly Awards. The award honors excellence in video and television across all screens and is judged by leaders from video platforms, television, streaming networks, production companies and includes partners like Adobe, Netflix, Dow Jones, A&E Networks, Hearst Media, Nickelodeon, ESPN Films, and Vimeo.



OUTREACH & TRAINING



Safe2Help Training

In 2022, Safe2Help offered free virtual and in-person presentations and trainings to schools and districts upon request. Safe2Help conducted 52 seminars attended by over 253 districts and/or schools.



Conferences & Events

Safe2Help participated in 14 conferences and events.



Television and Radio Commercials

Safe2Help has invested in statewide marketing efforts through television and radio campaigns to educate parents, community members, and educators on the availability of Safe2HelpIL as a resource.



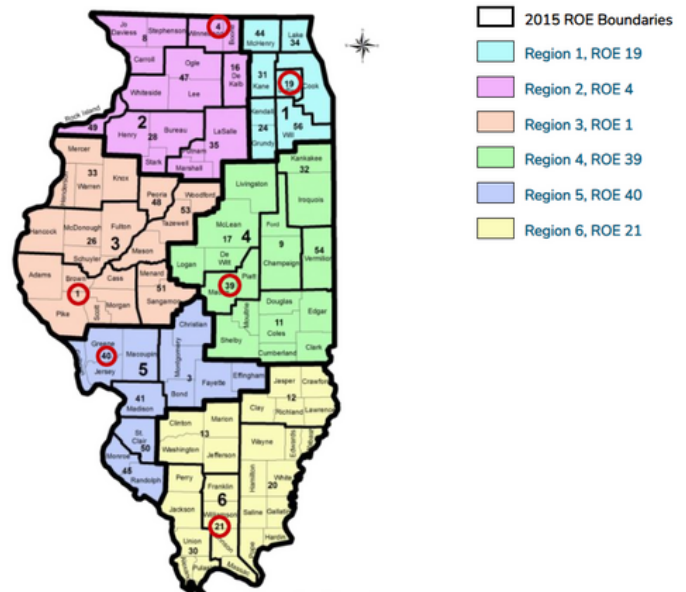
Student ID Card Act

With the release of Public Act 102-0416 that goes into effect January 1, 2023, Safe2Help or a local suicide prevention resource number is required to go on the back of any issued student identification cards, student handbooks, and any student planner that is custom printed and distributed for students in grades 6 through 12.

Social Emotional Learning (SEL) HUBS

SEL Hubs are providing free professional development, training, and support to districts in their region to establish and expand SEL programs in Illinois schools. They are assisting school-community leadership teams to implement data-driven strategies to address student trauma and mental health needs and build resilient communities.

Each SEL Hub provides training on Safe2Help, the Safe2Help Mental Health Toolkit, Digital Literacy, Youth Mental Health First Aid, and more! Contact to schedule training for your district or school.



Contact Information

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Incidents Shared

Safe2Help is changing attitudes and perceptions about sharing information on behavior and situations that impact school safety and student's overall well-being. For calendar year 2022, there were a total of 817 incidents with critical incidents increasing by 86.4% over 2021.

| Type | Percent |
|---|---------|
| Bullying/Harassment | 21.3% |
| Insufficient Information Provided | 14.4% |
| Test | 11.4% |
| Possession; use; or distribution of drugs (includes vaping) | 6.12% |
| School Complaint | 6% |
| Suicidal Ideation - Reported by another person | 5.1% |
| Non-Safety Concern | 5% |
| Program Inquiry | 3.7% |
| Threat to Safety | 3.5% |
| Cyberbullying | 3.2% |
| Depression | 2.6% |
| Self-Harm | 2.2% |
| Suicidal Ideation - Self Reported | 1.7% |
| Concerned Reporter | 1.5% |
| Sexual Assault | 1.2% |
| Anxiety Stress | 1.2% |
| Child Abuse | 1.2% |
| Possession of a Weapon | 1.2% |
| Threat of Assault/Battery | 1.2% |
| Duplicate | 1.1% |
| Fighting | 0.9% |
| Possession; consumption; or distribution of alcohol | 0.7% |
| Serious Illness/Injury | 0.7% |
| Threat of Planned School Attack | 0.7% |
| School Rule Violation | 0.5% |
| Dating Violence | 0.4% |
| Sexually Explicit Images/Videos | 0.2% |
| Vandalism | 0.2% |
| Animal Abuse | 0.1% |
| Theft/Stealing | 0.1% |
| False Report | 0.1% |

DEFINITIONS

Non-safety concern – A question, statement, or media file submission that is not a school safety concern.

Example: A student is having a difficult time with friends and wants to talk to someone.

Concerned reporter: Reporting about suspicious activity, or reporting about a friend/student/staff member someone is worried about.

Example: A student perceives a friend is upset and do not know how to help them. Concerned about a teacher who is receiving mean comments from students.

School complaint tips: Complaints about school or school staff.

Example: A student does not like to run and is complaining about having to do the activity. A teacher is assigning homework that is difficult. The teacher favors a student over the other.

False Reports: Non-actionable reports received with malicious intent. They may include false information to harm, injure, or bully another person.

The Time to Register is NOW!

If you are a K-12 school or district administrator and would like to participate in Safe2Help, contact us at:



Info@Safe2HelpIL.com



(217) 782-2700

