Identifying, Assessing, & Responding to Suicide Risk

**WSDOH Approval #TRNG.TG.60715084-SUIC**. On the Model List for Suicide Prevention programs in Washington State for health professionals.

# 6 CREDIT HOURS AWARDED UPON COMPLETION *Presenter: Gregory M. White, MS, LMHC, CCHP* [*www.gregwhitetrainings.com*](http://www.gregwhitetrainings.com)

**ABOUT THE PRESENTER:** Gregory White received his Master’s degree in Marriage and Family Therapy from Seattle Pacific University in 1983. Early on, his professional experience included working in a residential treatment program for teens, private practice, and outreach crisis intervention for families. Then, for 23 ½ years Mr.White worked as a mental health professional at the Snohomish County Jail in Everett, WA, a facility that had the largest mental health patient count in the city on any given day. During that time he assessed hundreds of people who made suicide statements, suicide gestures, and serious suicide attempts. Mr. White has had extensive experience working with families, clinicians, psychiatric providers, courts, and Designated Crisis Responders (DMHPs) when developing treatment plans and safety plans for at-risk detainees returning back to the community.

Mr. White has provided subject matter expertise for the National Institute of Corrections (Technical Resource Provider & Crisis Intervention Team instructor), the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Commission (Academy & CIT Instructor), OmniSure Consulting Group (Risk Management consultant, webinar presenter, Suicide-Reduction-Risk-Tip videos), Wolters Kluwer Health, Inc. (editorial and accreditation assistance for their counselor CEs through Lippincott Professional Development), Winning Focus, Inc. (suicide prevention flyer & webinar presenter), the National Commission on Correctional Health Care conferences (break-out session presenter), and the law firm of Kirkpatrick & Startzel, P.S. (jail mental health consultant).

**ABOUT THE COURSE:** 49 COURSES COMPLETED WITH 654 PARTICIPANTS SINCE 2013

This course includes research information from the World Health Organization (WHO), the American Association of Suicidology (AAS), the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs for an in-depth look at the prevalence of suicide, the risks & warning signs, and prevention factors. Mr. White utilizes case examples, stories, and research articles throughout this course and facilitates opportunities for participants to evaluate their clinical approach to this subject. Mr. White will provide helpful risk assessment tools and present an approach he developed entitled, “A.N.C.H.O.R. Management of Suicide Risk" that includes the key components for working effectively with suicidal clients.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:** By the end of the training participants should be able to

* Identify the signs and symptoms of a suicidal client
* Accurately assess the client’s risk factors
* Provide a reasonable plan for the client’s safety & welfare

**PARTICIPANT RESPONSE:**

 *2023: “As a clinic with multiple healthcare disciplines, we were looking for suicide training relevant and*

 *meaningful to all of our healthcare providers, from the oncologists, advanced practice providers, and registered*

 *nurses to LICSWs. Greg White beautifully orchestrated the training to meet the needs of all in attendance. He*

 *solicited feedback throughout the training to understand the needs of the attendees to ensure the activities were*

 *meaningful across various disciplines. Greg White is highly knowledgeable in the area of suicide prevention.*

 *Following the training, providers at the practice report feeling more confident in identifying, assessing, and*

 *responding to suicide.”* ***Abra Kelson, LICSW, Support Services Manager Northwest Medical Specialties, PLLC***

2023: *“You engaged a diverse audience with a well‐researched survey of information…Personal anecdotes, video clips, and small group work engaged the audience. The presentation made excellent use of updated sources and*

supplementary material. Mental health clinicians, substance use professionals, and peer counselors reported that they felt the training improved their practice.”**Amy Browning, LICSW, Care Manager/Systems Coordinator for Salish Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization**

2022: “His expertise and experience working with individuals who are suicidal will contribute to the knowledge others will gain when participating in his trainings. Mr. White will keep you engaged from real life stories of those in crisis to the techniques he shares that have shown to be successful. We completed his training feeling more confident in our clinical practice when working with our patient population.” **Dawn Menchen, MSW, LSWAIC, Chair of the Pacific Northwest Counsel of Nephrology Social Workers**

2020: “The speaker was excellent and well-versed in suicide and suicide prevention. I enjoyed the mix of lecture, media, and breakout groups. I’m very picky on speakers, and found this presentation to be excellent” **Participant from Navos**

2019: “It reduced my anxiety towards these situations by providing tangible tools & skills…Providing the specific frameworks & screening tools…the specific questions to ask & topics, variety of resources…Extremely

## helpful” Participant from Lummi Behavioral Health

## 2019: "On behalf of the CoHear/BCS staff, I want to thank you for your trainings…Your wisdom, years of experience and understanding the of the scope of this issue made the training interesting and challenging for us... Your self-disclosure, empathy and sincerity modeled to us how to genuinely and appropriately relate to our at-risk clients” I can highly recommend you and your training to other health professionals dealing with suicide risk." Brian L. Whitney MA, LMFT, LMHC, S-PSB, Clinical Director CoHear/BCS, Bellevue, WA

2019: “Greg was extremely helpful to our staff in providing accessible, useful, comprehensive clinical information about suicide prevention in a style and manner which was encouraging, hopeful, and skill-sharpening...The team was grateful for his leadership, his flexibility, his deep knowledge of this field and his skillful service to our team in this area. We could not have wished for a more comprehensive or useful training on this topic and highly recommend Greg for training, collaboration, and consultation.” **Laura Benton, MS, LMFT, Clinical Training Director, Samaritan Center of Puget Sound.**

*2018: “I would like to extend my highest appreciation to Gregory White from the people who attended his training in the Neah Bay community…He was extremely knowledgeable and his sense of humor was a great asset to a very hard topic…I would highly recommend him to any organization or team that needs to be fully informed on all the aspects of this topic.”* ***Betty Poffenbarger, Behavioral Health Manager, Sophie Trettevik Indian Health Center, Neah Bay, WA***

*2018: “Risk assessment tools very helpful. Stories, practice with cases, videos are awesome!…How to intervene, what words to use, topics to approach, to reach a place of hope.”* ***Participant from MultiCare Auburn Medical Center***

2015: “We recently utilized Mr. White’s expertise for our clinical team for suicide prevention. We have been providing clinical treatment for 31 years and we have experienced many trainers. Greg White is in the upper 1% of professional presentation, knowledge, and communication skills. Our entire team really enjoyed and

## benefited.” Dr. Greg Jantz, PhD, CEDS, Founder, The Center, Edmonds, WA