

**CRAWFORD COUNTY  
SUICIDE  
FATALITY REVIEW**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2025**

MARCH 2026



**CRAWFORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
PREVENT • PROMOTE • PROTECT

**988**

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**SUICIDE & CRISIS  
LIFELINE**

**CRAWFORD COUNTY  
SUICIDE PREVENTION  
COALITION**



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Be the lifeline.



If you or someone you know needs support now, call or text 988 or chat [988lifeline.org](https://988lifeline.org)



Photo Credits: Crawford County Suicide Prevention Coalition. All photos used in this report are from the September 2025 Prevention Walk.



# INTRODUCTION

In Ohio, approximately five (5) people each day die by suicide. These are family members, neighbors, friends, and co-workers. The groups most affected by suicide in Ohio include rural populations and males. The best way for a community to approach suicide prevention is through collaborated efforts and a commitment to face the issue with knowledge and determined hope.

## **We can:**

- reduce suicide deaths by better recognizing suicide risk and learning how to take appropriate action.
- work toward reducing stigma associated with suicide and mental health.
- increase local access to effective treatment and care.
- support our local Crawford County Suicide Prevention Coalition in their efforts.
- make sure we coordinate efforts in our community for safe storage of medications and firearms.
- increase access to wellness programs in our workplaces and schools.



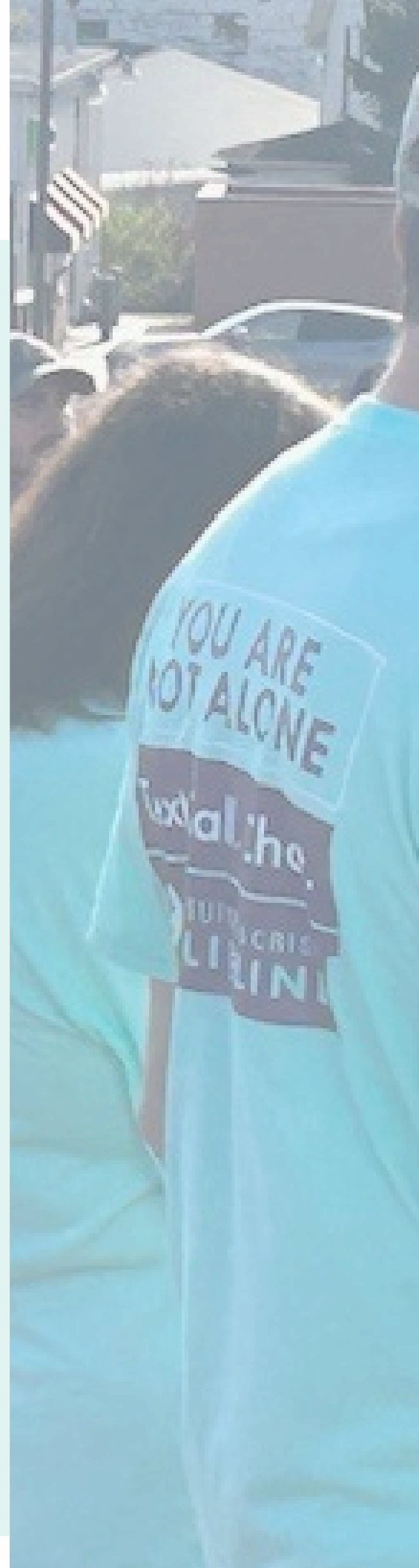
# ABOUT SOFR:

The purpose of the Suicide and Drug Overdose Fatality Review (SOFR) is to review and share information about both suicide and unintentional drug overdose deaths to gain a better understanding of the circumstances surrounding these deaths. Strengthening our knowledge improves our ability to take appropriate action. The objective of the SOFR is to identify possible trends and develop local recommendations based on information collected through the SOFR process to prevent future suicide and drug overdose deaths. The SOFR team interacts periodically, either in person or virtually. All suicide and unintentional drug overdose deaths of Crawford County residents are reviewed by the SOFR team. Current SOFR membership includes:

- Bucyrus City Fire/EMS
- Bucyrus City Police Department
- Crawford County Child Protective Services
- Crawford County Coroner's Office
- Crawford County Prosecutor's Office
- Crawford County Public Health
- Crawford County Sheriff
- Crawford-Marion ADAMH Board
- Wise Funeral Home

Sources of data include Death Certificates, Coroner/Medical Examiner Reports, Toxicology Reports, Police/Sheriff Reports, Obituaries, News, Social Media, Court Records, Medical Records, Mental Health Records and other treatment information, and EMS Reports.

HIPAA regulations prevent access to or exchange of some protected health information. All SOFR participants are required to maintain confidentiality of information obtained throughout the process. Obtaining law enforcement and/or EMA records, autopsy and toxicology reports from deaths that occur out of county is often difficult.



# NARRATIVE SUMMARY

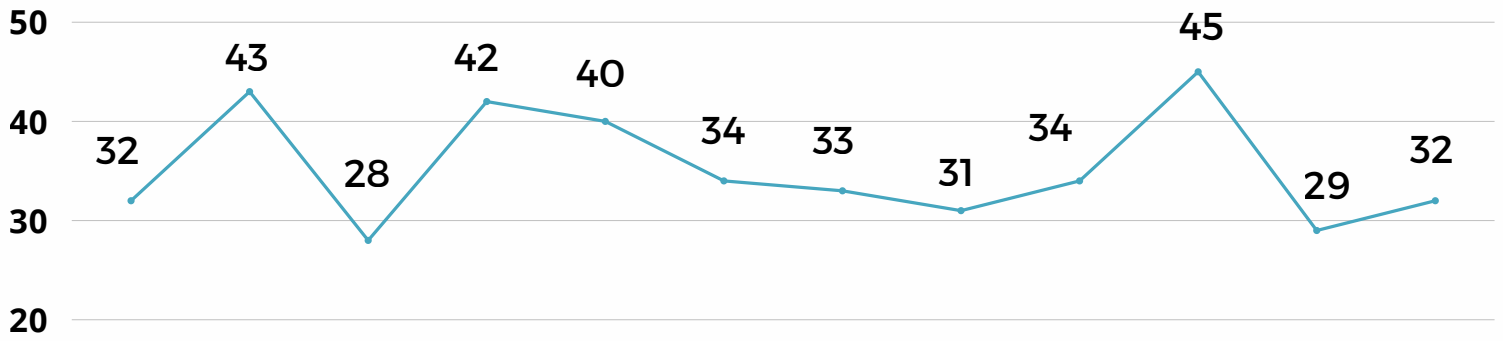
- There were six (6) suicide deaths in 2025 (4 males and 2 females).
- Three of the decedents lived within the 44820 zip code (Bucyrus area), two from 44833 (Galion area), and one from 44827 (Crestline area).
- Ages of decedents ranged from 15 to 73 years. The average age was 47 years.
- Home was identified as the most frequent location of injury (4 out of 6 of the instances).
- Two of the deaths were caused by hanging, one by gunshot wound, one was suicide by train, one by self-inflicted stab wounds, and one death was caused by intentional drug overdose.
- The education levels for the decedents are as follows: one with a Bachelor's degree, two had received their high school diploma or GED, two had attended 9th through 12th grade but had not received a diploma, and one listed as having attended some college courses but no degree.
- None of the decedents were veterans.
- Four of the decedents had history with law enforcement.
- Four of the six decedents had received previous mental health services.
- Three of the six decedents had left a suicide note.
- Two of the decedents had previous suicide attempts in which first responders were called to the scene.
- Only one of the decedents had been involved in a recent, known crisis at time of death (a break-up with a romantic partner).
- In 2025, the total number of Crawford County resident suicide thoughts/attempts reporting to an ER or urgent care center was 423 instances ranging from 8 to 95 years of age. (Compared to 420 in 2024, 437 in 2023, 388 in 2022, & 293 in 2021.)
- In 50% of the instances, the death was discovered after a welfare check by local law enforcement was requested by a friend or family member.
- Substance use at time of death was noted in 50% of the cases.
- During the fatality review meeting, the following risk factors were identified for 5 of the 6 decedents: mental health issues, substance use issues, family history of suicide, feelings of hopelessness, lack of social supports & previous suicide attempt.



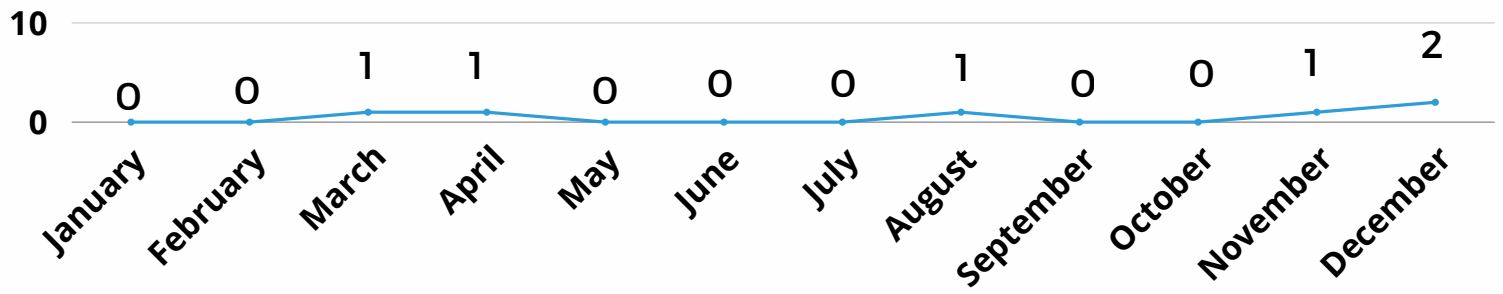


# 2025 SUICIDE IDEATIONS & DEATHS PER MONTH

Total # Thoughts of Suicide/Attempts per Month



Suicide Deaths per Month



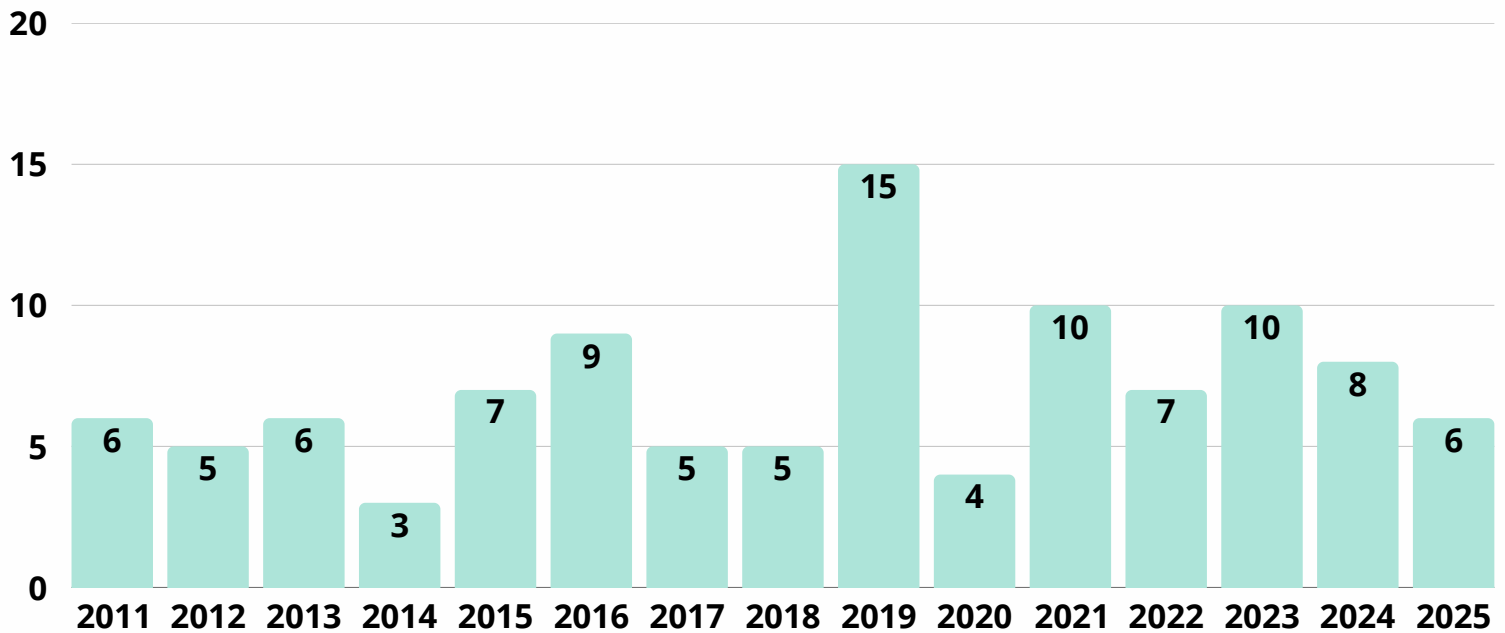
2025	Attempts	Deaths
January	32	0
February	43	0
March	28	1
April	42	1
May	40	0
June	34	0
July	33	0
August	31	1
September	34	0
October	45	0
November	29	1
December	32	2

**Suicide Attempt Data was extracted from EpiCenter surveillance system that classified the chief complaint in real-time. This surveillance data captured Crawford County residents that presented to an ER or Urgent Care Center anywhere in Ohio.**

Mortality data is provided by the Ohio Department of Health from the Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse. The Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions.



# 2011 - 2025 NUMBER OF SUICIDE DEATHS



Mortality data is provided by the Ohio Department of Health from the Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse. The Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions.

# 2025 THOUGHTS OF SUICIDE/ATTEMPTS SUMMARY

**Total: 423**

**Males: 211**

**Females: 212**

**Minimum Age: 8**

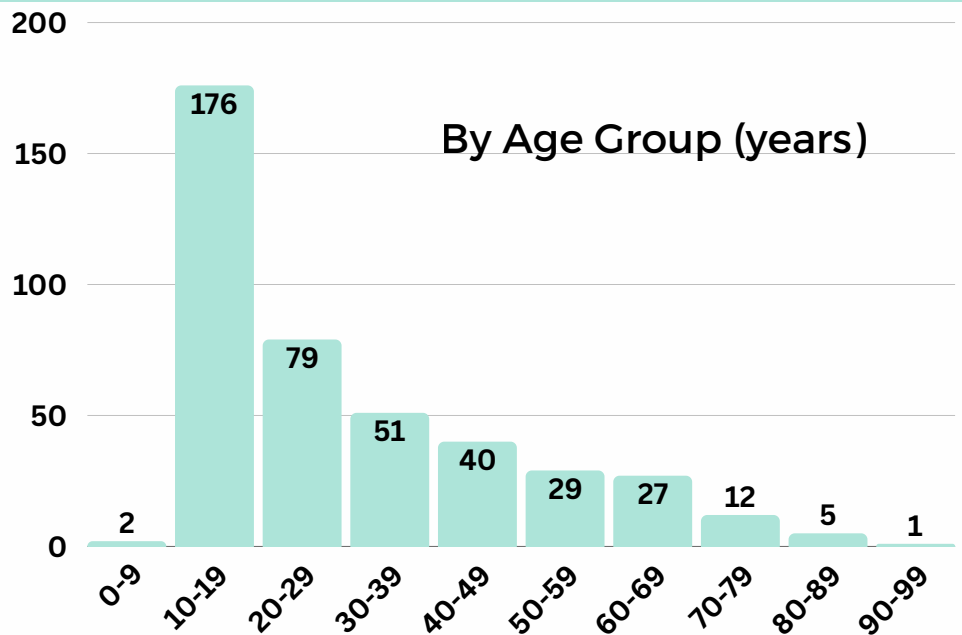
**Maximum Age: 95**

**Average Age: 30**

**Zip Code:**

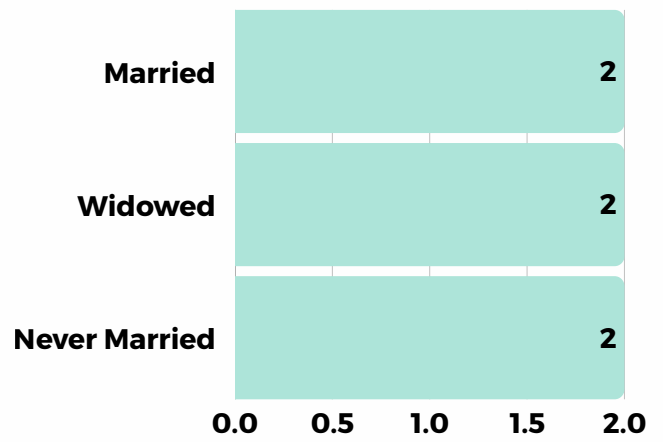
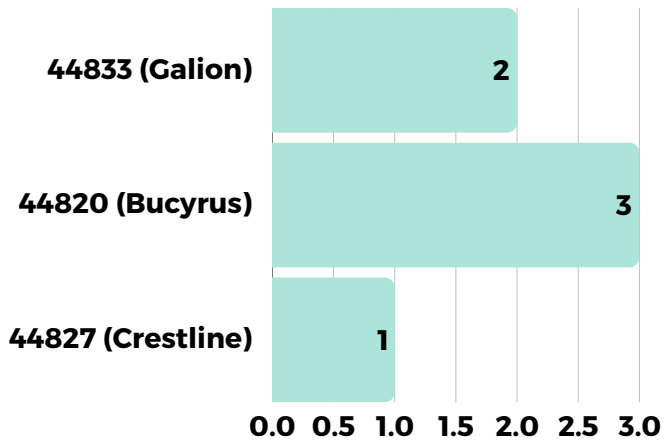


- 44820: 182
- 44833: 145
- 44827: 83
- 44854: 5
- 44887: 7
- 44825: 1

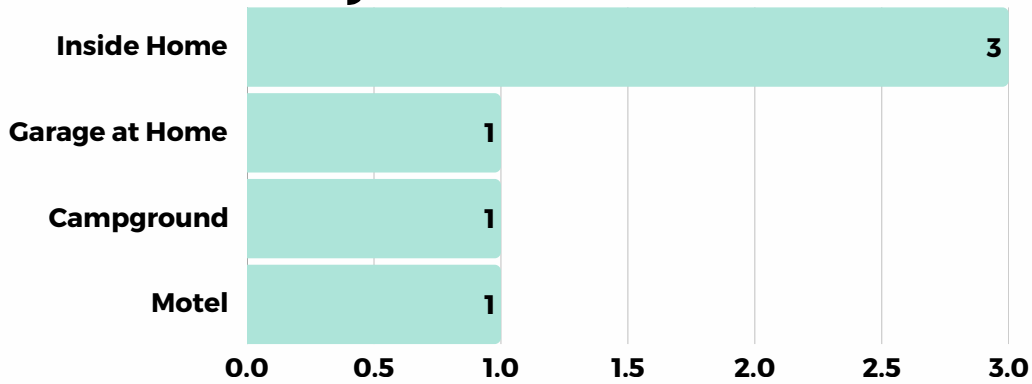




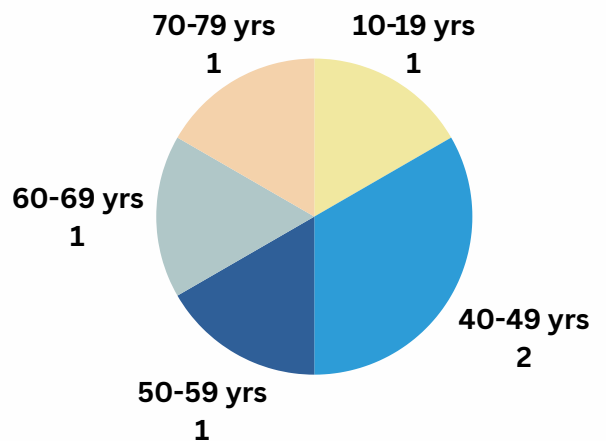
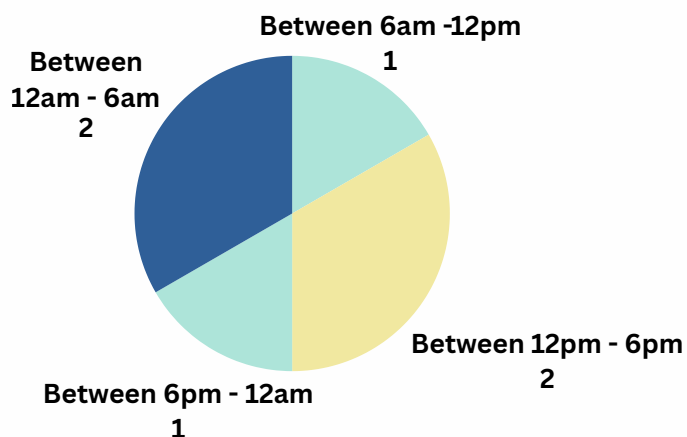
# SUICIDE DEATHS - RESIDENCY & RELATIONSHIP STATUS



# LOCATION OF INJURY

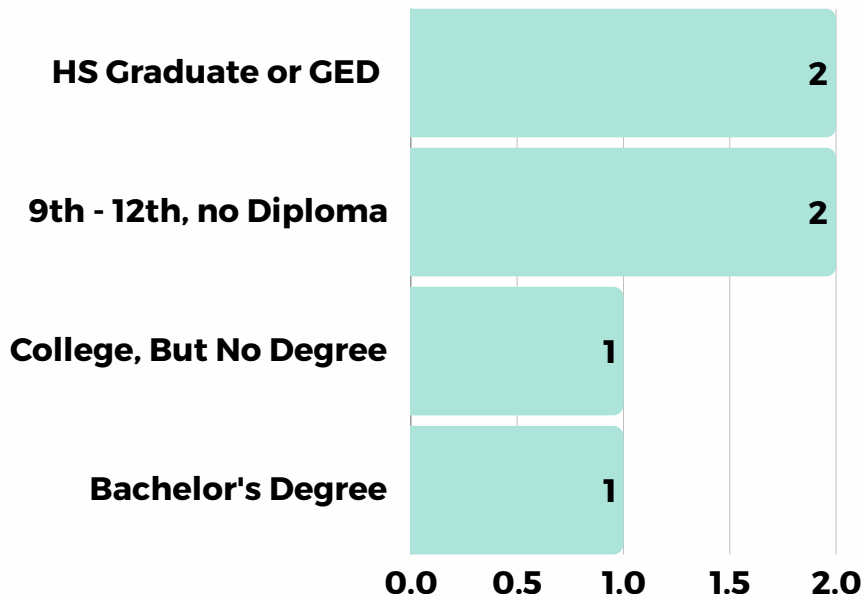


# TIME OF DEATH & AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS



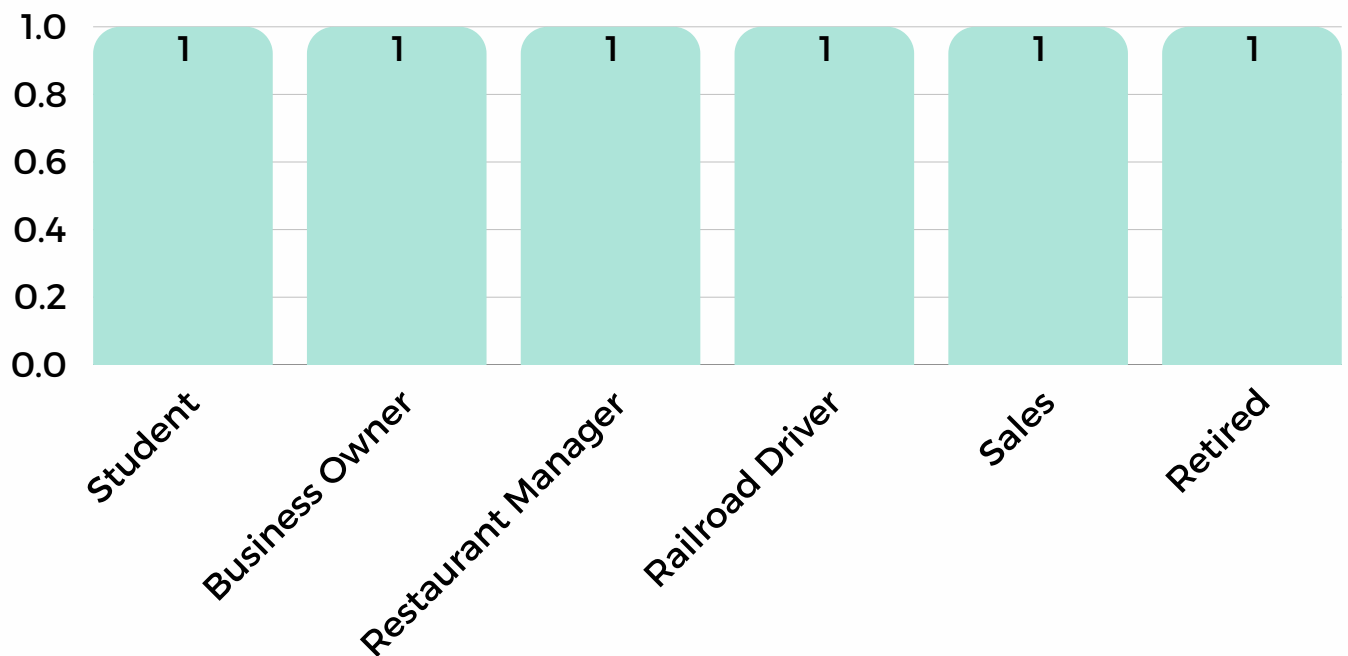


# EDUCATION



Two of the decedents had graduated high school or held a GED. Two of the decedents had attended high school, but did not receive a diploma. One of the decedents had attended some college classes, but did not hold a degree. One completed their Bachelor's Degree.

# OCCUPATION







# \*RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS

Risk factors are conditions that increase a person's likelihood of dying by suicide. Protective factors can help buffer people from those risk factors and help prevent suicide. We can all help build protective factors for ourselves and those around us.

## RISK FACTORS

- Mental health issues (including mood, anxiety, and some personality disorders)
- Alcohol and substance use issues
- Feelings of hopelessness
- Tendency toward impulsive or aggressive behavior
- History of trauma or abuse
- Major physical illness
- Previous suicide attempt(s)
- Family history of suicide
- Job loss or financial catastrophe
- Access to lethal means
- Feeling isolated and/or lacking social support
- Fear of stigma in asking for help
- Shortage of healthcare services
- Cultural or religious background beliefs

## PROTECTIVE FACTORS

- Strong coping & problem-solving skills
- Sense of cultural identity & belonging
- Support from family, friends, and community
- Connections to others
- Access to high-quality health care
- Reduced access to lethal means



*\*Information adapted from The Suicide Prevention Plan for Ohio, 2024-2026. Accessed March 24, 2026.*

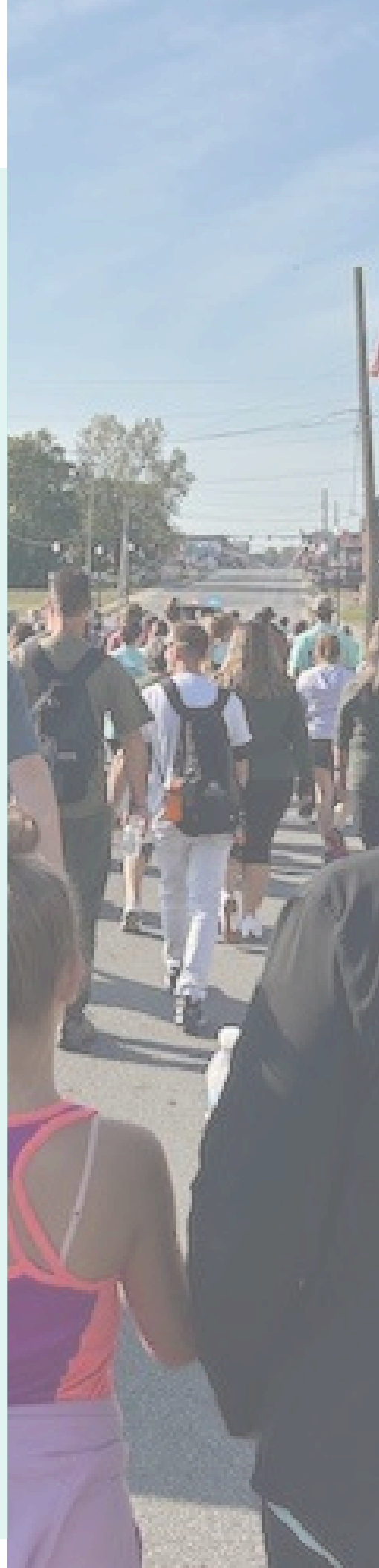
# NEXT STEPS

Suicide prevention is an important component of any community. Suicide death is preventable. Connecting to needed mental health treatment and supports are necessary to reduce suicide attempts and deaths.

## NOTED TRENDS

Upon reviewing the 2025 information, the fatality review team noted the following:

- Unlike previous years, only one of the six deaths was caused by gunshot wound.
- Four of the six cases indicated the individual had been referred for mental health treatment. One missed an appointment on the day of his death and another decedent was scheduled for treatment on the day after the death occurred.
- Home was the most common location listed as place of injury (4 out of 6).
- Four of the six decedents were alone at time of death.
- Three of the deaths (50%) included a suicide note found on scene.
- 67% of the cases had law enforcement history.
- None of the decedents were a Veteran.
- The average age for suicide deaths in 2025 was 47 years of age while the average age for suicide attempts reporting to an ER or urgent care center in 2025 was 30 years of age.
- Risk factors were identified for 5 of the 6 decedents. Three of the decedents (50%) had talked to either family members or friends within two weeks of their death about suicide, that they were having a hard time dealing with things, or that they had nothing left to live for. The other risk factors included family history of suicide (a spouse), history of mental health issues, substance use, and a lack of social or familial supports.



# NEXT STEPS

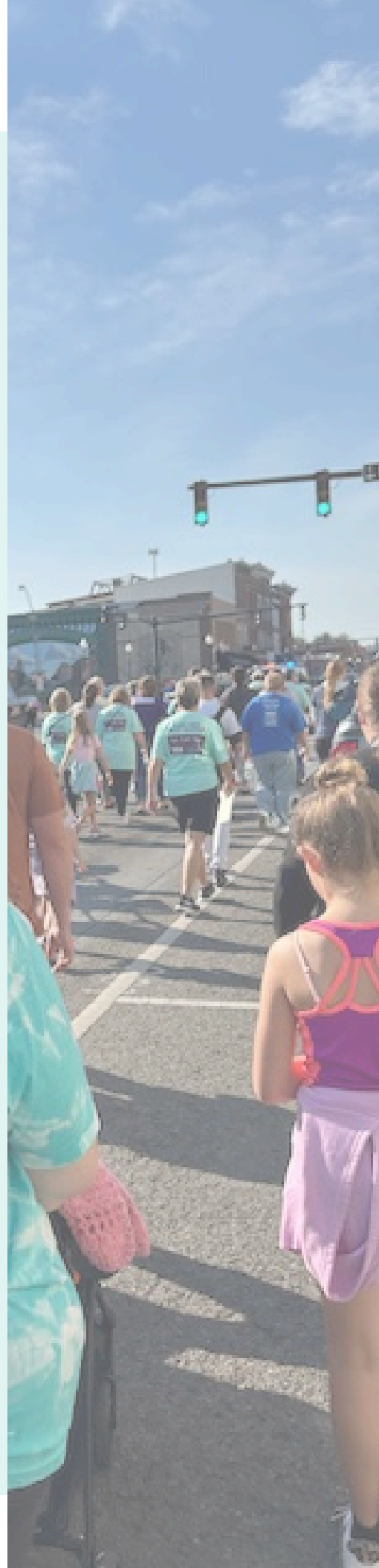
## RECOMMENDATIONS

The SOFR team discussed the following recommendations for the Crawford County community:

- **Promote safe storage** of firearms & medications. Distribute medication lock boxes and explore possible partnerships to assist in raising awareness of safe gun storage.
- **Continue & Expand the QPR trainings** to help recognize the signs someone is struggling and empower friends/family members to engage conversations.
- **Expand the Anchor Box distributions** in Crawford County that are packed with tangible resources to inspire, uplift, and empower those that are struggling.
- **Promote the Man Therapy Campaign** that focuses on men's mental health to support men before they are in crisis.
- **Reduce stigma** towards getting mental health treatment and increase messaging on treatment options available.
- **Promote 988** through a variety of outlets and ensure community partners are sharing the 988 info as well.
- **Create care packages** for patients from the local Suicide Prevention Coalition to distribute by ER staff.
- **Provide information** on available local resources to all area doctor's offices.

# CONSIDERATIONS

The Healthy People 2030 target for the United States is to reduce the suicide death rate from 14.1 deaths per 100,000 population to 12.8 per 100,000 population. Ohio's suicide death rate is currently 14.5 and Crawford County is 18.5 deaths per 100,000 populations. (Ohio Department of Health)



# CRAWFORD COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION 2026-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE:

By December 31, 2028, reduce the average number of suicides in Crawford County from 8 deaths to 6 deaths.

## Strategy 1: Provide Information

- **Develop & implement a digital campaign** in partnership with local media partners to target stigma reduction and 988 services, to reach 5,000 impressions by December 2027.
- **Partner with 5 factories to promote Man Therapy** in their break rooms and bathrooms, with a 25% increase in “Head Inspection” screenings for Crawford County by December 2028.
- **Develop a campaign** utilizing SAMSHA’s rural older adult or 988 branded material through ODBH to be shared in spaces such as Ag Credit, Hord Family Farms, Tractor Supply, Sunrise Co-op, and local senior centers with the goal of 1,000 flyers distributed by December 2028.

## Strategy 2: Enhance Skills

- **Partner with 2 local school districts** to train teachers & administrators in QPR by December 2028.
- **Work with local ERs & hospitals** to train staff in QPR annually, with the goal of at least 3 trainings by December 2028.
- **Partner with local faith institutions** to provide QPR a minimum of four times by December 2028.
- **Partner with the Senior Forum** to deliver 3 QPR sessions in local senior supporting spaces by December 2028.



# CRAWFORD COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION 2026-2028 STRATEGIC PLAN (Continued)

## Strategy 3: Provide Support

- **Identify & Recruit four (4) representatives** within specific high-risk groups that would be willing to join the coalition or work on specific projects (farmers, law enforcement, medical professionals.)
- **Develop & Distribute** 100 care bundles to be distributed at discharge at local ERs after suicide thoughts or attempts.

## Strategy 4: Reduce Barriers/ Enhance Protection

- **Partner with NAMI's CIT trainings** to provide information at 2 CIT classer per year.

## Strategy 5: Provide Incentives

- **In partnership with local faith institutions & NAMI,** develop & implement a wellness initiative to incentivize local churches to provide benefits and mental wellness initiatives for their parishioners, to have at least two (2) churches participating by December 2028.

## Strategy 6: Change the Physical Design

- **Partner with two (2) local grocery stores** to post or promote 988 by December 2027.
- **Distribute 50 anchor boxes** throughout the county by September 30, 2026.

## Strategy 7: Develop or Revise Policies

- **Annually send at member of the coalition** to the State Advocacy Day.
- **Develop an Advocacy Committee** to track, report & propose advocacy initiatives for the Coalition.





# WHO CAN HELP PREVENT SUICIDE?

- Friends/family members
- Local community leaders
- Faith-based organizations
- Employers
- School staff
- Coaches
- Mental Health providers
- Social services agencies
- **Anyone! You!**

**Help us bring suicide prevention conversations and services to your neighborhood.**

**The annual Suicide Prevention awareness walk is the 2nd Saturday of September.**

**HELP IS 3 NUMBERS AWAY**

911	988	211
<b>EMERGENCIES</b>	<b>SUICIDE &amp; CRISIS</b>	<b>EVERYTHING ELSE</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Medical</li><li>• Fire</li><li>• Crime</li><li>• Abduction</li><li>• Domestic violence</li><li>• Impaired driving</li><li>• Suspicious activities</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Thoughts of suicide</li><li>• Mental health crisis</li><li>• Substance use crisis</li><li>• Emotional distress</li><li>• Veterans crisis</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Food</li><li>• Housing</li><li>• Utility assistance</li><li>• Healthcare</li><li>• Legal Services</li><li>• Transportation</li><li>• and More</li></ul>

**2-1-1** Get Connected. Get Help.™

A PROGRAM OF **PATHWAYS OF CENTRAL OHIO**

**United Way** United Way of North Central Ohio

CRAWFORD COUNTY  
**SUICIDE PREVENTION  
COALITION**



**Visit the Crawford County Suicide Prevention Coalition Facebook page for local meeting information and updates. Or call (419)562-7288 to learn more on how you can get involved.**