

The 2025 Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Conference



Program

September
8 - 9, 2025

*Michigan State
University
Kellogg Hotel &
Conference Center*







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September 8 Agenda

8:00 am - 8:30 am.....Registration

8:30 am - 8:45 amWelcome

Dr. Alyse Folino Ley

8:45 am - 9:45 amP2P Update

Dr. Alyse Folino Ley

"By Helping One, We Will Save Many"

9:45 am - 11:15 amNational Expert Keynote

Dr. Melissa Reeves

*"Threats, Teams & Tools: Demystifying
Behavioral Threat Assessment in Schools"*

11:15 am - 11:30 amBREAK

11:30 am - 12:30 pmP2P Intensive Support Team

Case Manager Panel

*"Offering Whispers of Hope, Echoes of Support
and the Embrace Of Care"*

12:30 pm - 1:30 pmLUNCH

1:30 pm - 2:45 pmNational Expert Keynote

Dr. Alexander Westphal

*"The Pathway from Neurodivergence to
Danger: How Isolation Transforms Vulnerability
into Violence"*

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm.....BREAK

3:00 pm - 4:15 pmBreakout Sessions

September 9 Agenda

8:15 am - 9:45 am.....National Expert Keynote
Dr. Peter Langman
*"School Shootings: Perpetrators
 and Prevention"*

9:45 am - 10:45 am.....National Expert Keynote
Dr. Jessica Stern
*"The Evolving Role of Ideology in
 Targeted Violence"*

10:45 am - 11:00 am.....BREAK

11:00 am - 12:00 pm.....P2P Intensive Support Team
Mentor Panel
*"Nurturing Understanding, Inspiring Hope,
 Providing Encouragement and Awakening
 Potential"*

LUNCH & COMMUNITY

12:15 pm - 1:15 pm.....CONVERSATION
**Ellery Sosebee, Kevin Fischer,
 Pastor Terrence King**
*"Building Bridges Between Mental Health and
 Law Enforcement"*

1:15 pm - 2:45 pmNational Expert Keynote
Dr. Peter Langman
*"Lessons Learned from a Threat Assessment
 that Failed"*

2:45 pm - 3:00 pm.....BREAK

3:00 pm - 4:15 pmBreakout Sessions

Day 1: The Changing Landscape of Threat Assessment and Management

National Expert Keynote Speakers:



Dr. Melissa Reeves

School psychologist, expert in behavioral threat assessments in the K-12 setting



Dr. Alex Westphal

Forensic and Child Adolescent Psychiatrist, research focus on autism spectrum disorder

P2P Intensive Support Team - Case Manager Panel

Offering Whispers of Hope, Echoes of Support and the Embrace of Care

Breakout Session Options:

- Bridging Safety and Support: Insights into Behavioral Threat Assessment
- ACEs, Generational Trauma, and Mental Health: Pathways to Intervention
- United Fronts: Collaborative Paths to Preventing Targeted Violence
- Unseen Struggles: Nurturing Hope Through Early Education Supports

Day 2: Changing the Trajectory of Lives - The Identification and Management of High-risk Adolescents

National Expert Keynote Speakers:



Dr. Peter Langman

Psychologist, author, national expert on school shootings



Dr. Jessica Stern

Extremism/counter-extremism expert, author, research professor

P2P Intensive Support Team - Mentor Panel

Nurturing Understanding, Inspiring Hope,
Providing Encouragement and Awakening
Potential

Breakout Session Options:

- Bridging Safety and Support: Insights into Behavioral Threat Assessment
- ACEs, Generational Trauma, and Mental Health: Pathways to Intervention
- United Fronts: Collaborative Paths to Preventing Targeted Violence
- Unseen Struggles: Nurturing Hope Through Early Education Supports

Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project

Launched in 2022, Prevent 2 Protect (P2P) is the first of its kind adolescent targeted violence prevention initiative. This groundbreaking program was made possible through the 2022 Cross-Systems Intervention Grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Education. Prevent 2 Protect's innovative solution to the complex challenge of targeted violence is making a difference in Michigan schools.

Following the grant award, Dr. Alyse Folino Ley, child and adolescent psychiatrist and Associate Chair of Education, led the P2P team in rapidly mobilizing project efforts. Within the first year, the team established the multidisciplinary P2P Hub, created a community consultation center, and laid the groundwork for five regional Intensive Support Teams (ISTs).

The Intensive Support Team model which places a mentor and case manager in each designated region, was designed using foundational research in child development, neuroscience, psychiatry, behavioral threat assessment, and the critical role of mentorship.

The model effectively bridges systemic gaps between schools, law enforcement, and mental health services. During FY2 and FY3, Prevent 2 Protect successfully established five intensive support teams in districts throughout Calhoun, Mason, Lake, Oceana, Ingham, Wayne and Genesee counties. By implementing specially trained ISTs, Prevent 2 Protect aims to reduce barriers and seize early intervention opportunities to alter the life trajectories of high-risk adolescents, by operating under the belief that **by helping one, we can save many.**

In the first three years, P2P received nearly 80 referrals from our established regions, with 39 children and adolescents receiving a multidisciplinary assessment and intensive support services. These youth and their families are being monitored, mentored and supported within their communities. By fostering a sense of **Companionship, Competence, and Contribution**, P2P is helping high-risk adolescents **Connect** with their **Communities**.

The Four Pillars



Intensive Support
Teams



Consultation



Education



Evaluation & Best
Practice

Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project

Prevent 2 Protect is a unique program that draws upon the expertise of mental health providers, law enforcement and educators, to provide a research-to-practice hub located in MSU's Department of Psychiatry. Psychiatrists, law enforcement experts, resident physicians, allied health professionals, educators, and targeted violence prevention experts support community-based intensive support teams. Together, we provide consultation, training, technical assistance, and explore best practices to assist in the prevention of violence in K-12 schools across Michigan.



Pillar 1: Intensive Support Teams

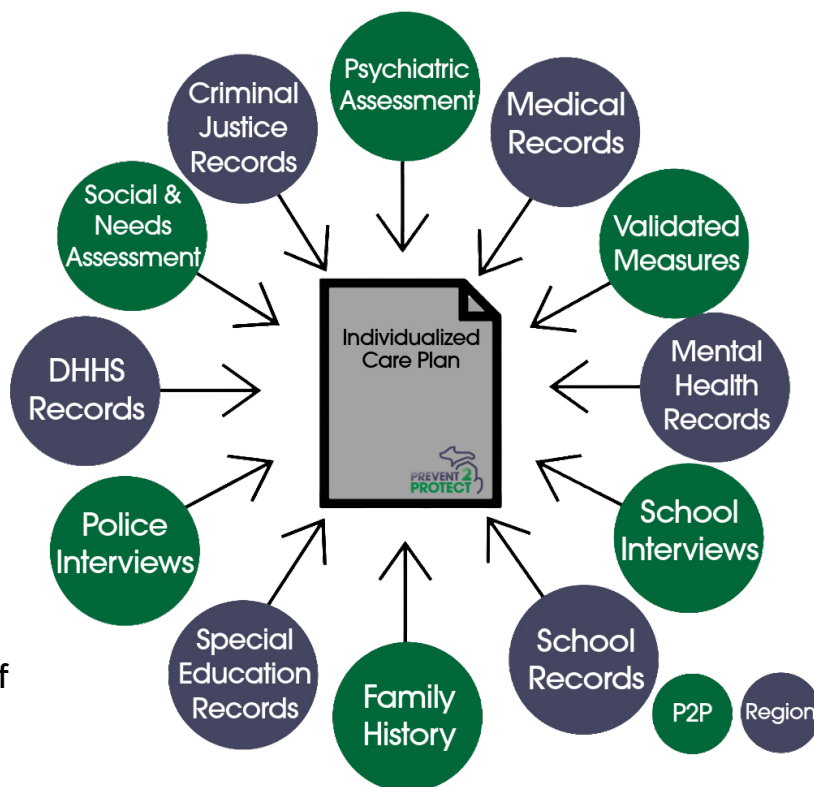
Built through collaboration and engagement with schools, law enforcement, and mental health professionals, our community partnerships are characterized by a deep commitment to building meaningful connections. First established in Calhoun County in 2023, Prevent 2 Protect has established **Intensive Support Teams (IST)** with the West Shore ESD, districts in Ingham County, Lincoln Park Public Schools, and districts in Genesee County. Each IST is comprised of a regional case manager and mentor who implement the **Individualized Care Plan** within the participant's community. The IST meets with the family multiple times per week to provide support, mentorship, and collaborate with our community partners to ensure our participants do not fall through the cracks.

Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project

Pillar 2: Assessment Center & Community Consultation

Our HUB serves as an assessment center for the state's highest risk adolescents. Utilizing information gathered from community partners, we bring participants and their families to MSU's Department of Psychiatry for a **holistic multi-disciplinary assessment**. Utilizing records gathered, interviews with community partners, validated measures and history completed by the family, as well as interviews during the assessment day, an **Individualized Care Plan** is created.

Our approach ensures that we have a complete picture of how to support young people who have made threats of targeted violence and develop a plan that will ensure they can envision a new future for themselves while keeping communities safe.



Our **community consultation services** are focused on supporting professionals working with adolescents who are at risk of engaging in targeted violence for any community in Michigan. The Hub team shares best practice considerations for the prevention of adolescent targeted violence and supports community management of complex cases.

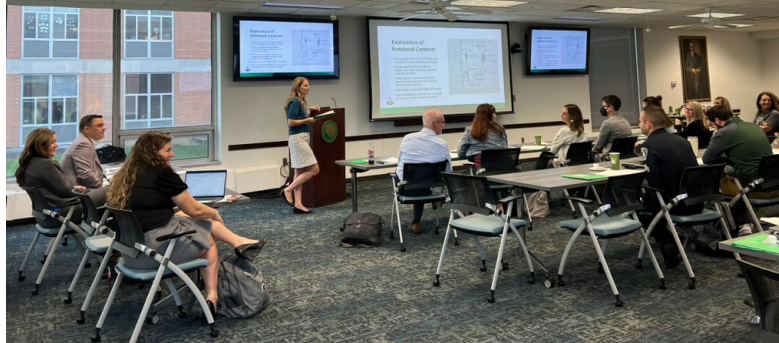
Prevent 2 Protect's consultation services uphold a **no wrong door** policy and an unwavering commitment to prevention, intervention, and rehabilitation.



Scan to request a
community consult

Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project

Pillar 3: Education & Training



Our team offers educational series, seminars, professional development, and specialized trainings to support schools, mental health providers, and public safety agencies across Michigan. We are available to deliver sessions on a wide range of topics, including psychiatric care, mental health awareness, case management strategies, school safety, public safety, behavioral threat assessment, risk assessment, special education needs, mentorship, and building effective community-based collaborations.

Through **workshops and on-demand training**, Prevent 2 Protect equips professionals with evidence-based practices and practical tools to prevent violence, support at-risk youth, and create safer, healthier learning environments statewide.

Pillar 4: Evaluation & Best Practice

At its core Prevent 2 Protect is a **community-based cross-system intervention**.

While our project's primary aim is to provide services to our community through assessment, consultation, and intensive support, we are passionate about cultivating a community of practice focused on preventing targeted violence and ensuring safer communities. By identifying **best practices** and developing tools and processes, we are able to provide a **model of intervention** to reduce adolescent targeted violence.



HARVARD
T.H. CHAN
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health is conducting a developmental evaluation of Prevent 2 Protect to provide feedback and inform the development of Phase 2.

Coming Full Circle: The Power of Mentorship and the Making of Prevent 2 Protect

From 2004 to 2008, during her residency and fellowship, Dr. Alyse Ley began working closely with renowned psychiatrist Dr. Frank Ochberg, a pivotal mentorship that would shape the trajectory of her work in trauma, recovery, and violence prevention. Under Ochberg's guidance, Ley contributed to the early development of what would become Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project, recognizing the unique developmental window to intervene with at-risk youth.

What started as mentorship soon evolved into a powerful collaboration rooted in the shared belief that early intervention can change the lives of high-risk youth. Their collaboration evolved into a long-standing partnership and together, they lectured, led trauma conferences, developed didactic curricula, supervised residents, organized survivor panels, and imagined new models for intervention.

Between 2015 and 2017, they created the Michigan Model which was originally conceived by Ochberg as a violence prevention framework involving law enforcement and civil commitments. Ley expanded and adapted this model to emphasize adolescence as a critical period for intervention, incorporating brain

You all saved my life. Thank you. I call my team to take the stress off.

Prevent 2 Protect parent

development, cross-systems integration, and proactive, trauma-informed prevention strategies. During this period, Ley and Ochberg continued teaching side by side, with the goal of changing the dialogue from trauma recovery to trauma prevention.

In April 2018, Ley joined a panel of professionals hosted by the John Jay College Academy for Critical Incident Analysis (ACIA) reviewing the 2017 Las Vegas Route 91 Harvest Festival attack, alongside Ochberg and experts such as Dave Cullen, Julie Pierson, and Abigail Drachman-Jones. After the Route 91 review, Ley worked with author David Cullen contributing to the PTSD chapter in his book *Parkland: Birth of a Movement* (published 2019), providing psychiatric insight, guidance and clinical expertise.

History of Prevent 2 Protect

Propelled toward prevention, Ley and Ochberg collaborated with the former President of the Prosecuting Attorneys Association and Chief Judge Hon. Peter Houk, JD and former district court judge Hon. David Jordan, JD. They further contributed to the Michigan Model by providing legal expertise, experience and insight to the interventional framework intended to bridge the mental health and judicial systems. In 2019, Ochberg introduced Ley to Frank Straub, PhD, Director of the Center for Targeted Violence Prevention at the National Policing Institute, which led to her involvement in the MSD After-Action Review (August 2019), the Paw Paw Case Review (September 2021) and Toolkit (2023), as well as the continued development of the Michigan Model between 2019 and 2021.

In the wake of the Oxford High School attack, the Michigan Model was presented to the Governor's Office, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), and the Michigan Legislature as a proactive, community-based solution for preventing future tragedies. In 2022, the MSU Department of Psychiatry was awarded the 5-year Cross-System Intervention Grant under Section 97f of the 2022 School Aid Budget, launching Prevent 2 Protect the first adolescent targeted violence prevention initiative of its kind. Today, Prevent 2 Protect weaves early intervention and support into the lives of high-risk youth across the State of Michigan. Rooted in our guiding principle—**by helping one, we will save many**—we are breaking barriers, strengthening families, and transforming the trajectory of adolescent lives.



Michigan State University is blessed with an abundance of practical people. When our state suffered lethal attacks on our schools, we convened faculty and alums to analyze and prevent deadly attacks.

We added local, national, and international experts. We are confident that we will discover effective, innovative, and scientifically sound ways to intervene before lives are lost.

*Advisory Board Member
Frank Ochberg, MD*



Michigan Department of Education Funding

In 2022, Michigan Governor Whitmer and the Legislature appropriated \$15M in the Department of Education's School Aid budget (Section 97f) to fund the implementation of Prevent 2 Protect: The Adolescent Targeted Violence Prevention Project. Prevent 2 Protect, housed in Michigan State University's Department of Psychiatry, is a five-year, \$15M pilot project to prevent acts of adolescent targeted violence, increase school safety, and support Michigan school communities through evidence-based intervention, consultation, education, and research.



Section 97f.

(1) From the state school aid fund money appropriated in section 11, there is allocated for 2022-2023 only an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.00 to pilot a **cross-system intervention** approach to identifying and supporting middle and high school students that are determined to be at risk for violence through a **psychiatric or psychological assessment**.

(2) Funding allocated in this section must be awarded to a public research institution and must be used for the **pilot program** described in this section.

(3) The pilot program must be a collaboration between a public research institution and a national law enforcement foundation and must include all the following:

(a) The use of **case management, intensive mentoring, and technical assistance** to reduce the threat of violence in school communities in the state and to provide early interventions for participating youth.

(b) Implementation in at least **five communities** from regions across the state.

(c) A **third-party evaluation** to assess outcomes and inform potential statewide implementation.

(d) The provision of **research-informed training and technical assistance** to law enforcement, schools, and community organizations to avert school violence and support young people in the state.

(4) The funds allocated under this section for 2022-2023 are a work project appropriation, and any unexpended funds for 2022-2023 are carried forward into 2023-2024.

The purpose of the work project is to increase school safety by identifying and supporting middle and high school students that are determined to be at risk for violence. The estimated completion date of the work project is September 30, 2027.



The Hub Team is located in the Department of Psychiatry at Michigan State University. Team members with expertise in psychiatry, social work, education, and law enforcement come together to support this multidisciplinary project. The Hub Team oversees the daily operations of the regional Intensive Support Teams and serves as the assessment and consultation center. The four pillars are implemented and guided by the Hub Team.

“

Prevent 2 Protect's proactive commitment to school safety is truly commendable. What sets them apart is their empathetic, non-punitive focus on early intervention, identifying and supporting students who might otherwise be at risk. Thanks to their dedication, both our schools and the wider Meridian Township community are undoubtedly safer.

”

*Chief Rick Grillo,
Meridian Township Police Department*



Alyse Folino Ley, DO, FACN

Dr. Alyse Folino Ley is a Professor and Associate Chair for Education in the Department of Psychiatry at Michigan State University. She serves as Director and Principal Investigator of Prevent 2 Protect the first of its kind state-funded initiative aimed at preventing adolescent-targeted violence in our K-12 schools.

A graduate of MSU's College of Osteopathic Medicine (2002), Dr. Folino Ley completed her general psychiatry residency and child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship at MSU. She is board-certified by both the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology (ABPN) and the American Osteopathic Board of Neurology and Psychiatry (AOBNP) in both general and child and adolescent psychiatry. She is a Fellow of the American College of Neuropsychiatrists, a Distinguished Fellow of

the American Psychiatric Association, and a member of the American College of Psychiatrists. A leader in psychiatry, her expertise encompasses a wide spectrum of complex conditions, including trauma-related disorders, mood and anxiety disorders, developmental and learning disorders, ADHD, and psychotic disorders.

Nationally recognized in violence prevention, she has contributed to case reviews of the Route 91 Harvest Festival shooting in Las Vegas with John Jay College of Criminal Justice, the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, and an averted school attack in Paw Paw, Michigan. Following the February 13, 2023, tragedy at MSU, she worked closely with Department and University teams to support campus mental health and recovery efforts. Dr. Folino Ley was appointed by Governor Gretchen Whitmer to the Michigan School Safety and Mental Health Commission and has served on both the Oakland County Prosecutor's Gun Safety Commission and the board of NAMI Michigan.

From 2008 to 2022, she held key leadership roles in psychiatric residency training at MSU, including as the Psychiatry Residency and Child Fellowship Director. She remains deeply engaged in medical education across the Colleges of Osteopathic and Human Medicine. She co-coordinates MSUCOM's psychopathology course, reaching over 300 second-year students annually, and co-founded the first student mental health committee at an Osteopathic Medical School. She also established The Joy Initiative, a wellness project developed with her residents, and authored Beyond Burnout, the first multi-year study of medical student well-being in Osteopathic Medicine.

Her honors include the 2016 AACOM COSGP Outstanding Achievement in Osteopathic Medical Education Award, the 2019 AACAP Research Mentor Award, and Golden Apple Teaching Award Honorable Mentions from the MSUCOM Classes of 2024 and 2025.



Danielle Murphy, MA

Danielle Murphy is a dynamic professional with a diverse background in healthcare, higher education, and emergency communications.

After working as a 911 dispatcher for the City of Lansing and Ingham County, Danielle started her career in education, working with graduate students in the College of Engineering at MSU. It was in this role that she discovered a passion for helping adult learners be successful. While pursuing a Master of Arts in Higher Adult Lifelong Education from Michigan State University College of Education, Danielle moved into a role in the medical schools, working with resident physicians. Within this role, Danielle was able to leverage her ability to problem-solve and navigate working with

community partners throughout the State of Michigan and emerged as a leader and mentor for her colleagues.

During the pandemic, Danielle decided to return to school and is a PhD candidate in the Higher Adult Lifelong Education program in the top-ranking College of Education at Michigan State University. Her research and career interests include education policy implementation, program evaluation, research-to-practice community-based programs, adult learning, rural education, and equitable access to education.

Today, Danielle leverages her multifaceted expertise in her commitment to excellence, problem-solving, and dedication to enhancing educational efficiency. Her knowledge and expertise in helping adult learners pursue their educational goals has been vital in helping participants and parents realize new paths toward productive and fulfilling futures. She offers a unique blend of skills and experience that make her an asset in any endeavor.

“

When can we go back to see that curly hair girl so I can show her how good I'm doing?

”

Prevent 2 Protect participant



Ellery Sosebee, BA

With 25 years of crime prevention, community engagement, and public safety, Ellery Sosebee is the dedicated law enforcement liaison with Prevent 2 Protect. As the former Chief of Police with the Lansing Police Department, Ellery relaunched the Police Social Worker program, creating a bridge between the police and the other agencies that help underserved communities. His expertise in crisis management, interagency collaboration, and leveraging technology serves as a valuable asset to the program.

During his two-year tenure as the police captain of the Lansing Police Department, Ellery implemented additional training for department employees such as de-escalation, active

listening, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Ellery also has a robust background in human resources and budget development, ensuring accountability and transparency. Before entering the police academy, he earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Michigan State University.

As a long-time Mid-Michigan resident, Ellery is driven by a commitment to enhancing public safety and fostering community trust, and ready to continue driving positive change as law enforcement liaison. At Prevent 2 Protect, Ellery bridges the gap between schools, law enforcement and the mental health community by cultivating positive and supportive relationships between families and community entities.

“

That guy's my favorite!

”

Prevent 2 Protect participant



Megan Goldstein, LMSW

Megan Goldstein is a licensed master social worker with over a decade of experience in healthcare and social work. As the Lead Case Manager for Prevent 2 Protect, Megan brings a strong background in clinical case management, team leadership, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Before joining Prevent 2 Protect, Megan served as the Department Manager of Patient Support Services at University of Michigan Health-Sparrow, where she led a diverse team of over 50 RN and MSW case managers and support staff. Her career has included pivotal roles in hospital-based case management, skilled nursing, sub-acute rehabilitation,

and mental health services. Her expertise spans program development staff education, patient advocacy, and compliance with healthcare regulations.

Megan holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Michigan, a Bachelor of Social Work from Michigan State University, and is a Certified Case Manager. She is passionate about improving systems of care and empowering individuals and families through education, support, and access to critical services. In her current role, Megan leads case management efforts for Prevent 2 Protect, working to address mental health and substance use challenges through coordinated, trauma-informed approaches.

“

We are so thankful for finding them. It's not just another program; they make you feel like family. They all work so hard daily for us. They believe in the children they are working with.

”

Prevent 2 Protect parent

About Our Communications Coordinator

PREVENT 2
PROTECT



Lieza Klemm, BA

Lieza has a background in storytelling and media, bringing a diverse skill set and proven track record in compelling content creation, social media strategy, and the dissemination of accurate information. Her expertise comes from monitoring social media analytics and creating engaging content for various podcasts. She graduated from Michigan State University's College of Communication Arts and Sciences with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism.

In addition to working on multiple podcasts, Lieza reported for WKAR Public Radio, the National Public Radio affiliate housed at Michigan State University. At WKAR, Lieza covered a variety of topics, including infrastructure,

education, health, and human-interest stories. This role deepened her love for non-profit programming and public media and allowed her to develop a nuanced understanding of the needs of the Greater Lansing community.

Lieza is dedicated to leveraging her expertise to drive effective communication and support project success. Her commitment to accurate, impactful storytelling and her strong connection to the community make her an invaluable asset to the Prevent 2 Protect team.

“

Thank you for everything you have done to help me.

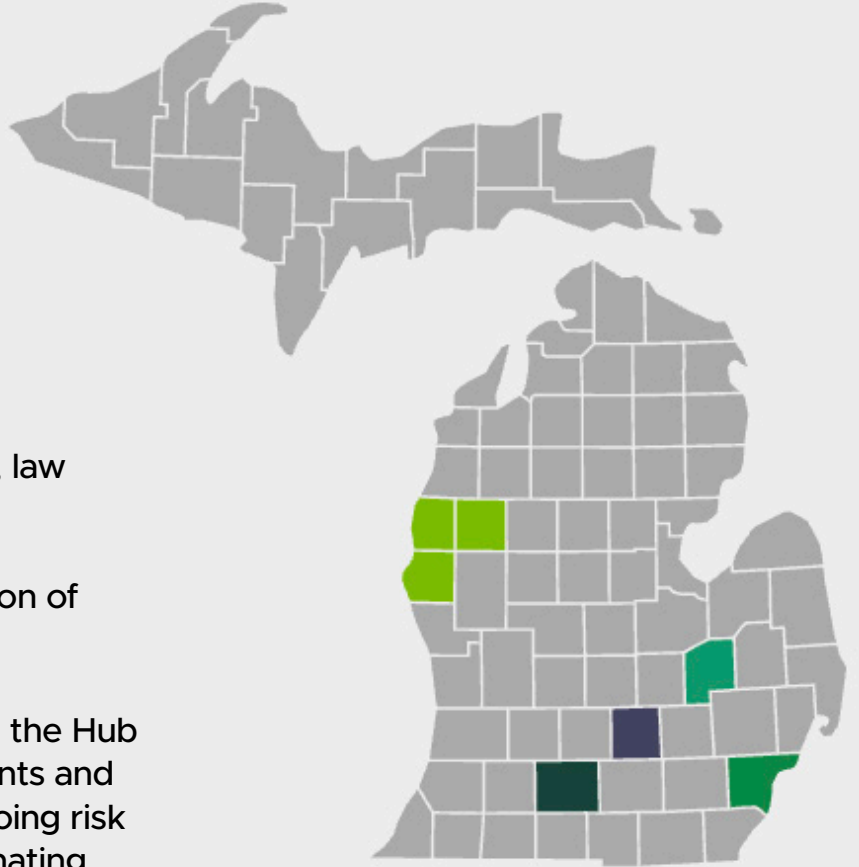
”

Prevent 2 Protect participant

Intensive Support Teams

Prevent 2 Protect has established Intensive Support Teams (IST) in five regions across Michigan. The primary goal of the intensive support teams is to prevent targeted school violence and promote rehabilitation through short-and-long term intensive case management and mentoring in collaboration with local school communities and mental health organizations. The ISTs facilitates cross-system collaboration.

- Provides specialized violence prevention expertise at the community level and facilitate the management of high-risk, high need adolescents through case management, and mentoring.
- Staffed by a case manager and a mentor, the IST's support schools, community mental health agencies, law enforcement, courts, and other community stakeholders in the prevention of violence and facilitation of rehabilitation.
- The IST's work in collaboration with the Hub Team to support high-risk adolescents and their caregivers by conducting ongoing risk and needs assessments and coordinating Individual Care Plans which may include: medical, mental health, education, employment, and other services to address identified needs.



“ I feel like I'm part of a family. You guys are awesome and help me so much. ”

Prevent 2 Protect parent

“ Prevent to Protect provides an incredible service supporting children and families - a service that is deeply beneficial and meaningful across our community. Investing proactively in support for children has countless benefits - for the child, family, school and community. ”

*Superintendent John Hood,
Okemos Public Schools*

Population: 133,289

Districts Served:

Athens Area Schools, Battle Creek Public Schools, Bellevue Community Schools, Harper Creek Community Schools, Homer Community Schools, Lakeview School District, Marshall Public Schools, Olivet Community Schools, Pennfield Schools, Tekonsha Community Schools, Union City Community Schools

Geographic Footprint: 706.3 square miles

Median Household Income: \$53,286

People under 65 without health insurance: 6.6%

Households with broadband internet: 85.4%

Official Student Count All Grades: ~21,469 (2024-25)



Adam Royer, LMSW
Regional Case Manager

Adam's career in social work is marked by a commitment to supporting individuals across various settings. For 14 years, Adam was a school social worker in several educational systems, working with students from preschool to age 25. He is a certified CPI System (non-violent crisis intervention) Trainer. He is an active member of the Michigan Association of School Social Workers. With Prevent 2 Protect, Adam uses his considerable experience and dedication to support the well-being of individuals and families, ensuring they receive the necessary resources and interventions to thrive.



Traci Austin, BA
Regional Mentor

Traci is a dedicated mentor who brings a wealth of experience and insight to the role with 24 years in law enforcement at the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department. While at KCSD, Traci held the title of the first and only female firearm instructor and was the field training officer for both civilians and deputies. In order to further support the communities she serves, Traci is pursuing a master's degree in forensic psychology. Her extensive background and ongoing education uniquely positions Traci to make significant contributions to Prevent 2 Protect, enhancing strategies for violence prevention and community protection.

Population: 12,594 (Lake), 29,409 (Mason), 26,973 (Oceana)

Districts Served:

Baldwin Community School District, Mason County Eastern, Mason County Central, Gateway to Success, Ludington Area Schools, Pentwater Public Schools, Hart Public Schools, Shelby Public School District, Walkerville Public Schools

Geographic Footprint: 567 square miles (Lake), 495 square miles (Mason), 538 square miles (Oceana)

Median Household Income: \$40,753 (Lake), \$55,035 (Mason), \$56,454 (Oceana)

People under 65 without health insurance: 8.0% (Lake), 6.5% (Mason), 9.3% (Oceana)

Households with broadband internet: 71.5% (Lake), 80.1% (Mason), 77.4% (Oceana)

Official Student Count All Grades: ~6,897 (2024-25)



Syriah Dobis, MA
Regional Case Manager

Syriah Dobis is a passionate advocate for education and mental health. She holds a master's and specialist degree in school and community psychology and is currently pursuing an EdD in MSU's College of Education. After transitioning into her role as a school psychologist, she became a trusted ally for students, families, and educators. Syriah testified to the House of Representatives for the SMART "Grow Your Own" Program to address the shortage of school psychologists. At Prevent 2 Protect Syriah is dedicated to implementing preventative measures and ensuring access to educational services to support students' and families' well-being.



Noah Petzak, BA
Regional Mentor

After completing his bachelors in Sociology, Noah began his career in child welfare and social services by joining the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and worked with Ingham County Children's Protective Services. In this role, he managed caseloads and supported families to ensure the well-being and safety of the children and families he served. Noah has extensive experience in social services and systems navigation. His ability to connect with families makes him a strong advocate and support for the participants of Prevent 2 Protect.

Population: 133,366

Districts Served:

East Lansing Public Schools, Haslett Public Schools, Holt Public Schools, Lansing Public Schools, Mason Public Schools, Okemos Public Schools, Williamston Community Schools

Geographic Footprint: 566.1 square miles

Median Household Income: \$58,191

People under 65 without health insurance: 10.1%

Households with broadband internet: 87%

Official Student Count All Grades: ~30,878 (2024-25)



Mary Gebara, MA
Regional Case Manager

Mary Gebara holds a masters degree in child development from Michigan State University. Mary previously served as the President of the Okemos Board of Education. She co-authored MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap. She was also appointed by the Governor to the Student Mental Health and Wellness Board, and the Student Recovery Advisory Board, where she worked with mental health experts from around the state to develop strategies and tools for students returning to school, post-pandemic. Mary is a fierce advocate for the P2P participants, always ensuring their safety, equity, and inclusion.



Jay Greene, BA
Regional Mentor

Jay has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from MSU where he also played football. He has over 20 years of experience working with youth and brings the wisdom and understanding needed to support P2P participant needs. He has dedicated his career to fostering positive change in young peoples' lives. The combination of his academic and hands-on experience helps Jay to serve as a positive role model. His commitment to youth development is reflected in his work, where he assists in shaping treatment plans, administering assessments, and guiding adolescents toward personal growth.

Population: 1,793,561

Schools Served:

Beacon Day, Crowley Center, Carr Elementary, Foote Elementary, Hoover Elementary, Keppen Elementary, Lafayette Elementary, Paun Elementary, Raupp Elementary, Lincoln Park Middle School, Lincoln Park High School, Mixer Institute for Transition

Geographic Footprint: 673 square miles

Median Household Income: \$57,281

People under 65 without health insurance: 7.8%

Households with broadband internet: 87.8%

Official Student Count All Grades: ~4,934 (2024-25)



Martine Hight, MA
Regional Case Manager

With more than 30 years of experience with victim advocacy, forensic interviewing, crisis intervention, and community relations, Martine brings a trauma-informed approach to supporting the at-risk participants of P2P. She received her bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from MSU. Previously Martine served as the director of the Washtenaw Child Advocacy Center. While at the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department in North Carolina, she worked as a homicide victim advocate and a mental health first responder following the campus shooting at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



Robert Clark, MA
Regional Mentor

Robert holds a masters degree in Sports Administration and brings a wealth of experience in education and youth advocacy. As a math teacher and basketball coach at Saginaw High School, he created structured and supportive environments for students to learn, grow, and develop critical life skills. Robert's background in mental health services and child welfare – including roles as a client service manager at Saginaw County CMH and treatment specialist at Holy Cross Children's Services. These experiences provide expertise in crisis intervention and conflict resolution to our P2P participants.

INTENSIVE SUPPORT TEAMS



75+
REFERRRRALS
in 22 months

Referral Sources



- Principals
- School Social Workers
- Superintendents
- Teachers



- Mental Health Specialists
- Physicians
- Behavioral Specialists



- SROs
- Probation Officers
- Sheriff's Deputies
- Police Officers

TOTAL # STUDENTS ENROLLED

Have received an assessment and Individualized Care Plan

1

2023

October

7

March

10

June

14

2024

September

18

December

25

March

33

June

39

2025

September

DEMOGRAPHICS



90%



10%

14

Average Age

8 to 18 years old

Age range

5,000 + CONTACTS

with students, families, school, and community partners since November 2023

22

Districts with Enrolled Students

28

Schools with Enrolled Students

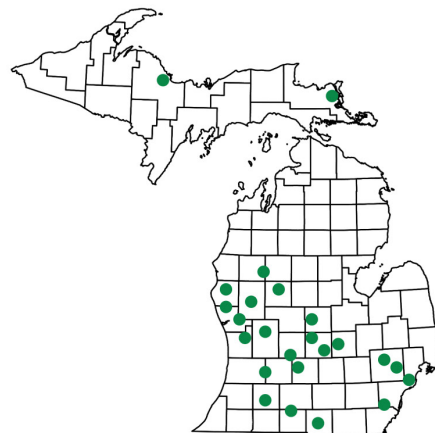
COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

42

Consults Completed



- Behavioral Threat Assessment Management Plan Support (18)
- Community Resource Navigation (Mental Health and Law Enforcement) (15)
- Education & Training (9)



**Communities
served**

national, state, and local level conferences, including:

The word cloud contains numerous names of organizations and individuals, such as Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine, American College of Osteopathic Neurology and Psychiatry, Michigan School Safety Initiative, MDE, Flint Community Schools, Calhoun County ISD, Women's Leadership and Legacy, Mi-DHHS, Children's Special Health Care Services, Mom's Demand Action, Michigan Chiefs of Police Association, Lincoln Park Intermediate School District, Michigan Association of School Psychologists, U of M Mott Children's Hospital, Detroit Chamber of Commerce, FBI, Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan, NTAC, Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust, MSP Emergency Management and Homeland Security, American College of Neuropsychiatrists, Michigan School Osteopathic Association Division, Michigan Association of School Administrators, Safety and Mental Health Commission, Mid-West Chapter of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, American College of Osteopathic Neurology and Psychiatry, Justice Clearing House, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Michigan Sheriff's Association, U of M Institute for Firearm Injury Prevention, Mason Public Schools, Lansing ISD, NAMI-Michigan, and others.

» reaching over 10K
allied health professionals, educators, law enforcement personnel, and physicians.

and
10
publications

29

Day 1: The Changing Landscape of Threat Assessment and Management

**PREVENT²
PROTECT**

The landscape of threat assessment is shifting dramatically in Michigan and throughout the country. In January 2025, Michigan passed bipartisan legislation aimed at proactively addressing school violence. This legislation mandates every school to establish a Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) team by October 1, 2026. This reflects a clear shift from a reactive to a preventive approach in school safety, setting a new standard in Michigan.

Welcome - By Helping One, We Will Save Many ***Dr. Alyse Folino, DO***



Rooted in companionship, Prevent 2 Protect helps high-risk adolescents foster a connection to the community by cultivating a sense of competence and meaningful contribution. In this session, Dr. Folino Ley, Director of Prevent 2 Protect, will discuss the journey from foundational research to the birth of a pioneering model. She will retrace its thoughtful construction, transformative implementation, and the unfolding story of its impact in Michigan.

National Expert Keynote - Threats, Teams & Tools: Demystifying Behavioral Threat Assessment in Schools

Dr. Melissa Reeves - Past President of the NASP and expert in Behavioral Threat Assessments in the K-12 Setting



As concerns about school safety grow, proactive strategies like Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) are essential. This session will provide a foundational overview of BTAM—what it is, why it matters, and how it supports safe and supportive school environments. The new Michigan law will be reviewed along with resources for training and strategies to strengthen collaboration and readiness. Legal liability concerns will be addressed with a balanced lens, equipping participants with facts, not fear.

National Expert Keynote - From Exclusion to Extremism: How Marginalization, Not Neurodivergence, Creates Risk

Dr. Alexander Westphal - Forensic and Child Adolescent Psychiatrist, research focus on autism spectrum disorder



This presentation discusses the difference between neurodivergence, including autism, and environmental factors that can lead to extremism and violence. It argues that social isolation is the primary driver of radicalization risk, rather than neurodivergence itself. The talk traces the progression from initial traits like social communication differences to experiences of exclusion, bullying, and marginalization, highlighting the importance of connection, inclusion, and support in redirecting dangerous trajectories towards positive outcomes.

P2P Intensive Support Team Case Manager Panel

Offering Whispers of Hope, Echoes Of Support and the Embrace Of Care

This heartfelt panel of individuals with expertise in education, social work, forensic interviewing, child advocacy, and school psychology share stories of resilience, compassion, and the quiet power of support that is transforming the lives of high-risk adolescents.



**Adam Royer
Calhoun**

- School Social Worker
- Extensive experience with high-risk kids in the K-12 setting



**Syriah Dobis
West Shore ESD**

- School psychologist
- Currently enrolled in the Educational Leadership EdD program



**Mary Gebara
Ingham**

- Child life and development specialist
- Former school board president



**Martine Hight
Lincoln Park**

- Forensic interviewer and advocate
- Former Child Advocacy Center Director

“

Supportive, caring,
compassionate, no judgment
whatsoever.

”

Prevent 2 Protect parent

Bridging Safety and Support: Insights into Behavioral Threat Assessments *Education Policy Team - Danielle Murphy, Mary Gebara, Noah Petzak*



This breakout session covers key insights into the new educational policy regarding Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM), including case examples, new legislation impacting school safety, and current trends. We will highlight implementation challenges, referral patterns, and best practices based on our P2P observations.

ACEs, Generational Trauma, and Mental Health: Pathways to Intervention *Mental Health Team - Alyse Ley, Martine Highet, Megan Goldstein*



This session explores the impact of adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and untreated psychiatric conditions on child outcomes. It examines the connection between psychiatric conditions and targeted violence, emphasizing the medical urgency of suicidal and homicidal ideation (SI/HI) and barriers to treatment. The discussion includes Prevent 2 Protect findings on ACEs, generational trauma, diagnoses, treatment compliance, and outcomes.

United Fronts: Collaborative Paths to Preventing Targeted Violence *Law Enforcement Team - Ellery Sosebee, Traci Austin, Jay Greene*



This session presents a case example highlighting the need for community collaboration and standardized approaches among school BTAM, law enforcement, and prosecutors in addressing targeted violence threats. It reviews data on threat nature, weapon access, and legal outcomes from Prevent 2 Protect participants, with comparisons to NTAC findings. The discussion also covers identifying credible threats and best practices for timely, effective follow-up.

Unseen Struggles: Nurturing Hope Through Early Education Supports *Education Team - Syria Dobis, Adam Royer, Robert Clark*



This session reviews case examples illustrating how unmet educational needs can impact students' self-esteem and lead to grievances against schools. It examines Prevent 2 Protect findings on the prevalence of IEPs, 504 plans, and early intervention designations, highlighting barriers like truancy and expulsion that hinder timely assessment. The session highlights the vital importance of early detection and timely intervention in special education to effectively address root challenges.

Day 2: Changing the Trajectory of Lives: The Identification and Management of High-Risk Adolescents

Transforming the path of adolescent lives begins with recognizing early warning signs and escalating behaviors that precede acts of violence. Early identification allows us to connect students with the support and resources they need, reducing risk and fostering well-being. In doing so, we build stronger, safer school communities where every student is safe and has the opportunity to thrive.

National Expert Keynote - School Shootings - Perpetrators and Prevention

Dr. Peter Langman - National expert on school shootings



This presentation refutes common misconceptions about school shooters, moving beyond the stereotypes and highlighting the diversity of perpetrators. We then explore three psychological types of shooters, highlighting patterns of failures and rejections that contribute to the shooters' rage and motivations for violence. The wide range of warning signs are discussed, as well as the barriers that both students and adults may experience that keep them from reporting the warning signs they encounter.

National Expert Keynote - The Evolving Role of Ideology in Targeted Violence

Dr. Jessica Stern - Extremism/counter-extremism expert



School shooters increasingly exhibit qualities traditionally associated with terrorists, thereby challenging conventional distinctions between these two forms of violence. This convergence reflects a broader shift away from ideology-centric models of terrorism that have dominated the field for decades. I will argue that personal factors, including psychological ones, serve as the primary drivers of domestic targeted violence, with significant implications for prevention.

National Expert Keynote - Lessons Learned from a Threat Assessment that Failed

Dr. Peter Langman - National expert on school shootings



This presentation focuses on an incident in which student threatened to kill a school employee. The administration conducted a threat assessment and concluded that the student presented a "low level" threat. Three months later, he committed his attack. What went wrong? Where did the threat assessment fall short? What more could have been done? This workshop explores the threat assessment process to discover what can be learned to improve the prevention of school attacks.

P2P Intensive Support Team Mentor Panel

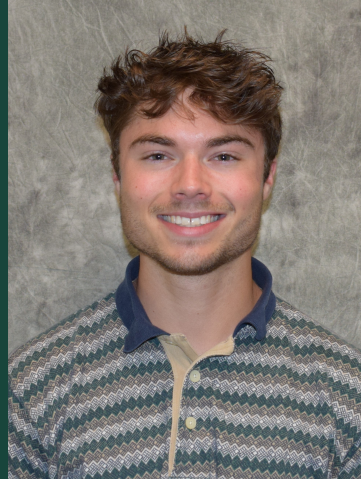
Nurturing Understanding, Inspiring Hope, Providing Encouragement and Awakening Potential

A dynamic panel exploring strategies to foster empathy, ignite hope, and provide encouragement through mentorship, empowering adolescents to unlock their full potential.



**Traci Austin
Calhoun**

- Former sheriff sergeant
- BTAM and firearm instructor



**Noah Petzak
West Shore ESD**

- Former CPS case manager
- Dedicated child and family advocate



**Jay Greene
Ingham**

- Former probation officer
- Lifelong child advocate and mentor



**Robert Clark
Lincoln Park**

- K-12 teacher and coach
- Former mental health counselor

“

I can look ahead to my future, seeing bright and exciting opportunities, walking tall with a smile and never looking back”

”

Prevent 2 Protect participant

Community Conversation: Building Bridges Between Mental Health and Law Enforcement

**PREVENT²
PROTECT**

Join us for a powerful and timely panel discussion at the Prevent 2 Protect Conference, highlighting innovative community collaborations that bring together mental health advocates, law enforcement, and faith-based leaders to support individuals in crisis. This talk will explore how partnerships are transforming crisis response and improving outcomes for people living with mental illness. Our panelists will share real-world insights, successes, and challenges in building trust, improving communication, and creating systems that prioritize care and treatment. Don't miss this opportunity to engage in a candid dialogue on how collaborative efforts can create safer, more compassionate communities.

Moderated by:



Ellery Sosebee

Prevent 2 Protect Law Enforcement Liaison

Throughout his career, Ellery has championed progressive training initiatives focused on de-escalation, active listening, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), ensuring officers are equipped to respond with both compassion and skill in moments of crisis. His extensive expertise in crisis management, interagency collaboration, and organizational leadership has positioned him as a trusted advocate for public safety rooted in empathy and accountability.



Kevin Fischer

NAMI Michigan & Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) International Michigan Executive Director

A dedicated mental health and suicide prevention advocate, he turned personal loss into lifelong service after his son's death in 2010. Kevin also leads The Dominique Fischer Memorial Foundation and EVERYBODY-VSSTIGMA.com, and serves on multiple state commissions advancing mental health policy. A nationally recognized leader, he is committed to eliminating stigma and improving early diagnosis and treatment.



Pastor Terrence King

Chief Servant Officer and Co-Founder of Kingdom Ministries

A former Vice President and campus pastor at Cornerstone University, he is dedicated to helping others discover and fulfill their divine purpose. Beyond the pulpit, he leads the Assembly of Lansing Pastors, addressing issues such as faith and mental health, gun violence, and racial disparities, and shares insights on unity through WCSG's Beyond the Pulpit. Pastor King also leads the Christian Celebration Center Church (KM Center Campus).

Prevent 2 Protect (P2P) Intensive Support Teams: Expanding Our Impact Across Michigan



The P2P Hub and Intensive Support Teams have made a meaningful impact in communities across Michigan. Since the launch, we've established a multidisciplinary assessment, consultation and support Hub, received nearly 80 referrals, with 39 children and adolescents completing a comprehensive, multidisciplinary assessment. These youth and their families are now enrolled in intensive community-based care. In addition to direct services, we've handled over 40 consultation requests from educators, healthcare providers, law enforcement, mental health professionals, and parents; demonstrating the critical need for P2P's expertise and support.

As Michigan implements its new Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (BTAM) legislation, every school district will be required to assess and manage high-risk students. This presents both a challenge and an opportunity. P2P's Hub of expertise, which includes, psychiatrists, educators, social workers and law enforcement have successfully worked to develop and implement effective intervention plans for high-risk youth throughout our state and are eager train and support districts throughout Michigan. P2P has the experience to lead K-12 schools in their efforts to manage high-risk students.

Prevent 2 Protect: Phase 2

Every high-risk student assessed through P2P will leave with an Individualized Care Plan tailored to their needs, which will then be implemented locally with the support of the P2P Hub and regional teams. This approach ensures continuity and accountability across systems.

By expanding our reach, we can equip Michigan's school districts with the tools and expertise needed to manage at-risk youth effectively, ensuring no community is left without support, and no child falls through the cracks.

Phase 2 Goals:

As a central assessment, consultation, and training hub, P2P will support districts across Michigan by:

- (1) **Expanding** our multidisciplinary assessment center, to ensure schools have a trusted resource to refer students for comprehensive psychiatric and multidisciplinary evaluations and Individualized Care Plans following a BTAM assessment.
- (2) **Helping** local districts to establish and train Intensive Support Teams throughout the state.
- (3) **Supporting** schools in the implementation of best practices in the monitoring, mentorship, and case management of adolescents at risk of committing acts of targeted violence in the K-12 setting.
- (4) **Deploying** P2P regional teams statewide to ensure that every district has access to experienced skilled professionals who can support BTAM teams in the management of at-risk youth in their communities.
- (5) **Providing** comprehensive training, internship opportunities and professional development for law enforcement, mental health, medical, and school personnel.



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Department of
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Toronto and subject
matter expert re: autism
and extremism,
Pediatrics



Hon. David Jordon, J.D.
Ingham County District
Court Judge (Retired)

With Deep Gratitude...

As we reflect on this journey and the creation of a first-of-its-kind innovation, we are filled with deep gratitude for those who stood beside us, guided us, and championed this work from the very beginning.

To **Dr. Frank Ochberg**, our original mentor—your wisdom, compassion, and unwavering belief in the power of healing and prevention laid the foundation for all that has followed. To **The Honorable Peter Houk** and **David Jordan**—your vision, contributions to the original model, and continued service as advisors and advocates have been invaluable in shaping this work.

We extend our sincere thanks to the many individuals at the **Michigan Department of Education** who work tirelessly to support our schools, especially **Michelle Richard, Dr. Michael Rice, Dr. Diane Golzynski, Michael Leathead, Scott Hutchins, and Ashley Sepeter**—your leadership and commitment have helped bring this model to life across the state.

To the **Michigan State Police, the Office of School Safety, and the School Safety and Mental Health Commission**—thank you for your steadfast partnership and shared dedication to protecting our students.

To our community champions—**Dr. Daveda Colbert, Dr. Jennifer Taiarol, Dr. Nasuh Malas, Angela Matthews, Steve McMahon, Dr. Amanda Unger, Nicole Chubb, Steve Slayton, Kevin Fisher, Jerry Johnson** and **Sheriff Steven Hinkley**—your advocacy, insight, and care for your communities continue to inspire and move this work forward. To **Dr. Jessica Stern**, your guidance and encouragement have been a true gift.

We are deeply grateful to our elected officials whose voices and actions have amplified this effort: **Representative Elissa Slotkin, Senator Thomas Albert, Senator Tom Barrett, Senator Sam Singh, Senator Schmidt, and Representative Sarah Anthony**—your support has been instrumental in expanding the reach of our work to those who need it most.

To the **MSU Department of Psychiatry, the College of Osteopathic Medicine, and the College of Human Medicine**—thank you for giving this initiative a home and believing in its mission from the start. To my incredible team—**Danielle Murphy, Ellery Sosebee, Megan Goldstein, Lieza Klemm, Traci Austin, Adam Royer, Syria Dobis, Noah Petzak, Mary Gebara, Jay Greene, Martine Highet, and Rob Clark**—the heart of this mission. Brilliant minds, compassionate souls, and fierce believers in the power of prevention and hope, you show up every day with courage, creativity, and grace. It is your light, laughter, and relentless dedication that make this work not only possible but deeply meaningful. I am endlessly grateful to walk this path with you.

And to **Governor Gretchen Whitmer**—thank you for making the children of Michigan your priority. Your leadership, commitment, and belief in a better future have helped bring this vision to life in the most powerful way.



Acknowledgments

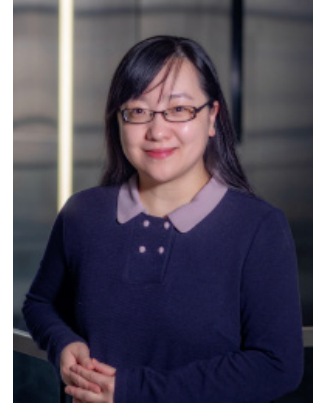
Special thanks to members of MSU Department of Psychiatry and Residency Programs



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Notes

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