



**CAAST**  
CHILD ADULT ADVOCACY STUDIES  
KNOW | RESPOND | PREVENT

The University of South Dakota's Child & Adult Advocacy Studies (CAAST) certificate program and the Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment (CPCM) offer a 5-hour CAASt ECHO series to increase the universal knowledge of school personnel and discuss perceived barriers to implementing COVID-19 responsive and trauma-informed care.

- Online training for educators and other school professionals
- 5 Hours - can be completed all together or broken up into separate sessions
- Consider scheduling a free training for your school or attend an "open-to-all" scheduled training

## Supporting South Dakota Educators' Response to Maltreatment

### Course Schedule

#### Session 1: Child Abuse & Neglect in South Dakota

##### Objectives

- a. Know the risk and protective factors for child maltreatment and identify high-risk populations.
- b. Understand characteristics that increase risk of and protection against suicide and warning signs of imminent harm.
- c. Recognize resiliency factors contributing to an ability to cope with child maltreatment.

#### Session 2: Child Development and Stress

##### Objectives

- a. Understand the effect of stress on a child's brain development.
- b. Recognize and understand physical, mental and behavioral health effects of violence, neglect and abuse.
- c. Understand the impact of child maltreatment on suicide ideation, attempt, and completion.

Contact Tracy Thomes, CAASt Program Coordinator, at [tracy.thomes@usd.edu](mailto:tracy.thomes@usd.edu) to schedule a training.

Find additional information at [sdcpm.com](http://sdcpm.com)

#### Session 3: A Framework for Safe and Successful School

##### Objectives

- a. Identify and propose school-based programs promoting mental health.
- b. Engage diverse school professionals to develop strategies to meet student needs.
- c. Integrate suicide prevention and wellness programs to improve school climate to reduce risk of suicide, violence, and bullying.

#### Session 4: Trauma Informed Classrooms

##### Objectives

- a. Enhance understanding of trauma to better interpret behavior of students.
- b. Recognize warning signs for suicide prevention.
- c. Create a practical framework for intervention and application.

#### Session 5: School Leaders' Response in Trauma Informed Environments

##### Objectives

- a. Educate community leaders to provide resiliency for students and school staff.
- b. Develop a protocol for school suicide prevention and postvention activities.
- c. Recognize the importance of community engagement in responding to maltreatment, as well as prevention efforts.

**Follow-up, in-person meeting with school multidisciplinary team available.**