

# Uncovering Suicidal Ideation and other Dangerous Secrets in Schools and Universities



Presented by: Shawn Christopher Shea, M. D.

[www.suicideassessment.com](http://www.suicideassessment.com)

Sponsored by West End SELPA

**About the presenter:** Shawn Christopher Shea, M.D. is an internationally acclaimed workshop leader and educational innovator in the fields of suicide prevention, resiliency, clinical interviewing, and improving medication adherence having given over 850 presentations worldwide. Dr. Shea is the author of seven books and numerous articles including one of the classic texts in the field of suicide prevention, *The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment*. Dr. Shea is the Director of the Training Institute for Suicide Assessment and Clinical Interviewing ([www.suicideassessment.com](http://www.suicideassessment.com)), a training and consultation service providing workshops, consultations, and quality assurance design in mental health assessments.

**This one-day/four-part workshop** series provides state of the art skills necessary to tackle some of the most difficult clinical situations facing experienced counselors regarding suicide assessment. Topics include: the practical use of risk and protective factors in formulating risk, innovative strategies for uncovering suicidal ideation and intent, forensically sound methods for documenting risk, interview strategies for uncovering taboo topics often associated with increased suicide risk such as substance abuse and incest, and interviewing tips for spotting dangerous psychotic process both directed towards self and others.

**Part 1** Dr. Shea gives a look at the concept of arriving at a clinical formulation of risk, using risk factors, protective factors, and warning signs. Dr. Shea provides integration of these factors into a flexible method of arriving at a clinical formulation of risk that forms a powerful antidote to the "check-list" approach. Dr. Shea then proceeds to dissect the fine art of documenting a suicide assessment, providing tips for writing a sound document that is a useful clinical tool and a written record.

**Part 2** is devoted to understanding practical validity techniques: normalization, shame attenuation, the behavioral incident, gentle assumption, the catch-all question, denial of the specific and symptom amplification - the cornerstones for effectively eliciting suicidal ideation. Using videotape of a client, Dr. Shea demonstrates how these interviewing techniques can also provide powerful gateways for uncovering the types of sensitive topics that may lead to suicidal thoughts in students including: problems with grades, relationship problems, physical abuse, drug abuse, antisocial behavior, bullying, and incest.

**Part 3** The day, also enriched by a vivid videotape demonstration, is devoted to an exploration of how these validity techniques can be woven into a specific strategy for eliciting suicidal ideation – the Chronological Assessment of Suicide Events (the CASE Approach). The highly acclaimed CASE Approach, as integrated into a sound suicide assessment in Dr. Shea's book *The Practical Art of Suicide Assessment*.

**Part 4** looks at the puzzling world of psychosis. Using a series of compelling videotapes from actual client interviews with late adolescents, Dr. Shea demonstrates specific interviewing techniques to help school counselors ferret out the early signs of impending psychosis as well as spotting dangerous psychotic process including suicide, homicide, and self-mutilation.

**Monday, September 10, 2018**

**TIME:** Registration 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. **Workshop starts promptly at 8:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.**

**WHO:** School Psychologists, School Counselors and Clinicians, Mental Health Providers

**FEE:** \$100 pp for WESELPA Districts - Other districts/areas \$125. Includes materials and lunch

**WHERE:** West End Educational Service Center / 8265 Aspen Avenue / Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

**Registration questions:** Anna Hernandez, WESELPA, 909-476-6158 or email: [anna.hernandez@sbcss.net](mailto:anna.hernandez@sbcss.net)

**To pre-register go to:** <https://sbcss.k12oms.org/57-153401>

**Registration deadline: August 27, 2018 – follow-up with payment to confirm registration.**

**To Submit Payment:** Forward a copy of the registration notice, and the payment (payable to SBCSS) prior to Aug. 27, to the West End SELPA, Attn: Anna Hernandez, 8265 Aspen Avenue, Suite 200, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730.

PO's and Inter-Dept. Transfers may be faxed to 909-466-4230 or emailed to: [anna.hernandez@sbcss.net](mailto:anna.hernandez@sbcss.net)

