

# THE HB123 APPROACH TRAINING MODULE

## Time

30 minutes

## Materials

Adult Advisor Training Presentation Slides (including The HB123 Approach)

Adult Advisor Packet

## Key Point

Ohio schools must be compliant with Ohio HB123, also known as the SAVE Students Act, starting in fall of 2023. Schools can utilize the Sources of Strength program to meet the legislation's suicide prevention requirements, but only if they follow the HB123 Approach.

### Slide 1 – The HB123 Approach

“The Safety and Violence Education Students Act, better known as the SAVE Students Act, was passed by the Ohio General Assembly in late 2020. The goal of the legislation is to increase students’ emotional and physical safety by integrating evidence-based safety training and programming into schools. This includes suicide and violence prevention, social inclusion, threat assessment teams and training, anonymous reporting systems, and emergency management plans. We’re going to focus on the suicide prevention components, but just know there are additional requirements beyond the scope of today’s presentation that help schools develop a comprehensive approach to student safety.”

“This school has chosen Sources of Strength to meet the requirements of the SAVE Students Act, aka House Bill 123. During this part of the training, we’re going to talk about what this legislation is and how you all can implement Sources to ensure your school is compliant with its standards.”

### Slide 2 – HB123 Key Requirements

“Here are the components most important for Sources teams to consider as you implement the Secondary Program in your school:

- “Schools must implement a program that has been approved by the Ohio Department of Education.
- “Programming must include at least one hour or standard class period of instruction.
- “Programming must reach all students in grades 6-12”

“As you might have guessed, Sources of Strength is one of those approved programs, but maintaining compliance with the legislation isn’t as simple as implementing Sources. We’ll get into more of those details in a few slides.”

### Slide 3 – Approved Program “Musts”

“Programs must be evidence-based to qualify for the Department of Education’s list of approved programs, and they must cover specific content such as suicide risk factors and warning signs. We’ll go over each of the content requirements next, but you can refer to your SAVE Students Act handout (Handout 1) in your Adult Advisor packet if you’d like to review those content requirements now.”

### Slide 4 – HB123 Content Requirements

“The first content requirement for approved programs is that they instruct school personnel on how to identify the signs and symptoms of depression, suicide, and self-harm in students. There’s a bit of overlap here with another section of the Ohio Revised Code that requires school

personnel to engage in a bi-annual staff suicide prevention training. It's important to note that your school may already be utilizing a training that fulfills this part of HB123."

At this point, check in with participants about their school's plans for a bi-annual suicide prevention training. This can be covered through the following questions:

"Let's do a quick show of hands:

- "Does your school have a training in place to satisfy the bi-annual suicide prevention training?"
- "Does that training cover the content listed on this slide?"
- "Has the school already conducted a training on this content this year?"

If participants answer "yes" to all of the questions above, let the participants know they can still utilize Sources to complement existing training (see below). If participants answer "no" to any of the questions above, recommend the Risk Factors and Warning Signs module with staff. This module models how to instruct individuals on how to identify the signs and symptoms of depression, suicide, and self-harm in students.

If the group consists of Adult Advisors from different schools, some participants may have a training in place while others do not. Acknowledge those who already have this content covered and recommend the Risk Factors and Warning Signs module for those who do not.

As a group, brainstorm options to bring this information to school personnel, such as having the Adult Advisors facilitate the Risk Factors and Warning Signs module during a staff meeting or Professional Development day. The goal of this question is not to create a concrete plan for how and when to conduct this module, more to jumpstart the Adult Advisors' thinking about when they could introduce

this content to other staff members. Take a few popcorn answers and move on.

Remind participants that the Risk Factors and Warning Signs module with staff (p. 176 in the Trainer Manual/Handout 2) and Peer Leader Mission Statement (Handout 3) are included in their Adult Advisor Packet.

### **Slide 5 – HB123 Content Requirements**

"The second content requirement is, *How to identify appropriate mental health services within schools and larger communities and when and how to refer youth and their families to those services.*"

Ask participants to take the Suicide Intervention Protocol handout out of their Adult Advisor Training packet (Handout 5). Remind participants that this handout was introduced during the Significant Events and Protocol Review module (p. 98) earlier in the Adult Advisor Training. It outlines the key pieces of a comprehensive school suicide intervention protocol, such as the annual training discussed during the last slide.

### **Slide 6 – HB123 Content Requirements**

"HB123's remaining content-related requirements are covered by four of Sources of Strength's templated campaigns, listed on the screen now."

Read off the content requirements one by one.

"To reach all students in grades 6-12 for one-hour of instruction, you'll need to work with your Peer Leaders to plan activities with the necessary scope."

Ask the participants to pull out their blank Sources Campaign Planning Template from their Adult Advisor Training Packets (Handout 6).

Explain that their packets include Planning Templates (Handouts 8, 10, 12, and 14) for each of the campaigns on this slide, and that Sources teams can easily use these

campaigns to cover this content within the legislation’s one-hour requirement.

Remind participants that their Sources teams can create their own campaigns to fulfill HB123 as well, or in addition to the four campaigns on the slide – which is why they have a blank template their packets.

### **Slide 7 - Content Requirements**

“In addition to the Campaign Planning Templates, Sources offers guidance on how to implement these campaigns on their website and in the Adult Advisor Field Guide” (starting on p. 55).

“Comprehensive guides on each of these four campaigns can be found in your Adult Advisor Packet (Handouts 7, 9, 11, and 13). Review these before the Peer Leader Training for inspiration on the different activities that can be implemented as part of each campaign.”

“You can also visit the Sources of Strength website to see pictures and videos of what other Sources teams have done these campaigns.”

### **Slide 8 – HB123 Key Requirements**

“Now that we’ve covered the content requirements of the approved program, we’re going to jump back to the other requirements.

#### **TRAINER TIP**

If participants have questions that aren’t covered by training – due to time constraints or knowledge of the facilitator – encourage them to reach out to Sources of Strength Ohio. Their contact info will be shared at the end of the training module.

“As mentioned earlier, the SAVE Students Act requires the approved program to engage all students in grades 6-12 for one-hour or standard classroom period. That one hour can be split up over the course of several class periods, and your standard classroom period can run a little bit shorter

or a little bit longer than one hour depending on your individual school’s class schedule.”

### **Slide 9 – One Hour of Instruction**

“Earlier in the Adult Advisor training, we discussed the various ways that campaigns can take shape, including wall displays and presentations. To reach every student for at least one hour or standard class period, we would encourage Sources teams to focus on all school activities and classroom activities to reach compliance with the legislation.

“In the templated campaigns, you’ll see several examples of how campaigns can be implemented within the classroom, such as by having teachers plan a lesson around depression and anxiety or having Peer Leaders present on what to do if their peers are struggling with their mental health.

“You can also plan an activity that involves the entire school, like a school assembly or Peer Leader activity before a pep rally.

“Finally, individual schools may have unique options for classroom time, such as an advisory period attended by the entire student body for 20 minutes a day each morning.

“The Planning Templates in your Adult Advisor packets have been designed to help your Sources teams plan campaigns that reach every in student for at least one hour per year. This can help your Sources team make sure that your activities make an impact on the entire student body.”

### **Slide 10 – Fidelity Markers (Checklist)**

“If you turn to page 102 in the Field Guide, you’ll see a series of fidelity markers your team should use to ensure successful and effective implementation of the program. In addition to fidelity markers focused on Planning, Training, and Follow-Through, Ohio schools have fidelity markers focused on the SAVE Students Act. We don’t have

all of the text on the slides, so you'll want to refer to your Fidelity Marker handout (Handout 15) to get the full picture of the HB123 fidelity markers."

Move through the fidelity markers one by one and mention they can check off the majority of items during the first few Peer Leader meetings and campaign activities.

"Look! We've even checked off the first item today! And once you fill in the other boxes, you're set for the year."

### **Questions after today?**

"If you have questions about the SAVE Students Act, implementing Sources to fulfill the SAVE Students Act requirements, funding for Sources, or Sources of Strength Ohio, please email Sources of Strength Ohio at [info@sourcesofstrengthohio.org](mailto:info@sourcesofstrengthohio.org). You can write that email address down or visit the [www.SourcesofStrengthOhio.org](http://www.SourcesofStrengthOhio.org) *Contact Us* page.

"If you have questions about general implementation, training, or need technical assistance, reach out to Cody Sletten at [Cody@sourcesofstrength.org](mailto:Cody@sourcesofstrength.org). You'll also find his contact information on the [SourcesofStrength.org](http://SourcesofStrength.org) *Contact Us* page."

### **Key Summary**

- HB123 covers several areas, including violence prevention and social inclusion, but this training is only focused on suicide prevention.
- Schools can meet the requirements by implementing Sources to cover the content requirements and engage all students in grades 6-12 for at least one hour or standard class period.
- Schools can use the Campaign Planning Templates to plan activities that help them meet the requirements described above.