[S.I.S.] Store It Safe

Ohio Chapter
INCORPORATED IN OHIO
American Academy of Pediatrics
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

Why Store It Safe?

The Ohio AAP Store It Safe (SIS) program is unique in its comprehensive approach. SIS trains healthcare providers to screen for depression and suicide, discuss lethal means, distribute storage devices, and provide resources for families. Our tools and resources are ready to deploy – and, through our broad networks, we can reach youth across the state, from rural to urban regions. In addition, we are partnering with hospitals and community providers to expand this reach.

Store It Safe is the ONLY Program that brings together injury prevention/safety advocates and firearm/gun-owner rights advocates to thoughtfully address this crisis.

More than **110,000** Ohioans reached by the SIS program over the past year alone

4,000 youth suicide and depression screens were completed during the first program

38% **of adolescents** had contact with a healthcare system within the 4 weeks before their death.

1,600 healthcare providers were trained in SIS Education

21 statewide and national organizations part of Store It Safe Coalition

1,200 lock boxes distributed over 4 years

80% **of Ohioans** prefer to receive firearm safety messaging from healthcare providers or firearm advocacy groups

"The mental health crisis is an epidemic throughout Ohio and the US and pediatricians are on the front lines. Through SIS, we are working to identify the at-risk groups early on and provide barriers for all families to help reduce senseless suicides and deaths."

Sarah Denny, MD, FAAP,
Store It Safe Medical Director

"As a founding partner in the Store It Safe Coalition, we firmly believe in the importance of voluntary safe storage of firearms and increasing access to storage devices among at-risk populations."

Dean Rieck, Executive Director,
Buckeye Firearms Association

Our Ask, because Screening + Safe Storage = Saved Lives

The tools and resources are developed. They have been vetted by gun advocates, teens, parents and pediatricians. By working through our extensive network of healthcare providers, hospital systems and partners, we can reach across the state from rural to urban regions, and into the most at-risk populations to address this crisis.

In order to continue and expand this important work, Ohio AAP and its SIS partners are requesting $1.5 million per FY, $3 million total, via fiscal earmark for:

- Continuation of quality improvement work and additional SIS program spread
- Funding lock boxes for the QI program and community/hospital systems
- Statewide campaign around Store It Safe messaging
- Sales tax exemption for safe storage devices

Note: This proposal includes NO mandates! It's incentive-based, not penalty-based!

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Suicide Stats:

Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death in people 10-25 years old in the U.S., and is on the rise

ED visits for suicide attempt in adolescents 12-17 **increased 31% in 2021**

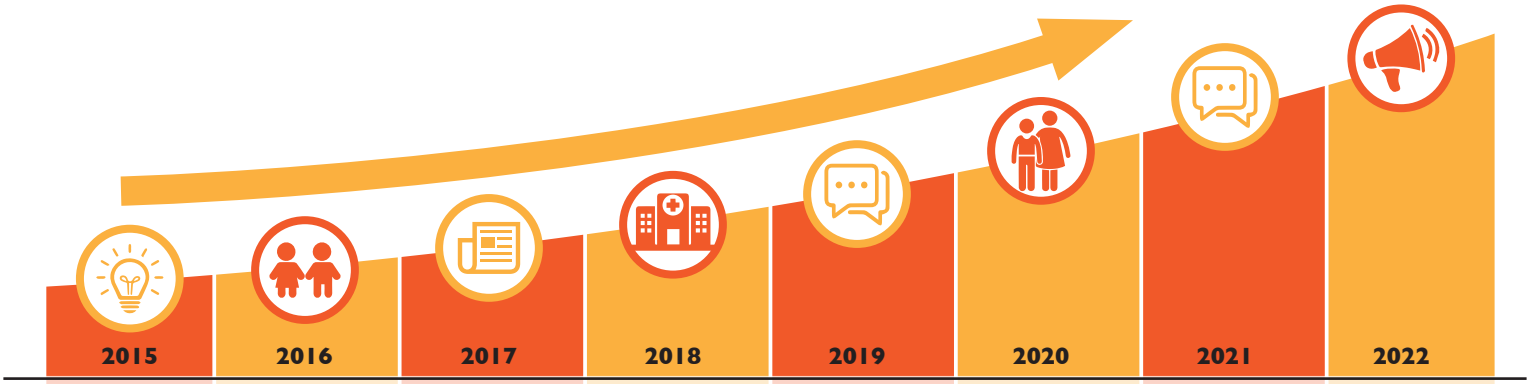
82% of youth who completed suicide by **firearms** used one **from their home**

50% of survivors made an attempt within **20 minutes** of their decision to attempt suicide

80% of adolescents **visited a healthcare provider** within the year prior to death by suicide

The History of Store It Safe

In response to unintentional firearm injury to children, Ohio AAP leadership established the Store It Safe program in 2015. The program brought together organizations and individuals with different viewpoints about firearms to develop unified, nonpartisan messaging, resources and approaches to reduce unintentional firearm injuries and deaths in children, then expanded to address suicides by firearms in adolescents. Over the years, the program has grown to include a wide variety of education, advocacy, quality improvement and community initiatives.



2015

Established Store it Safe program and Coalition

2016

Developed primary care resources, piloted firearm safety box distribution (ages 2-5 years)

Surveys show **80% of Ohioans prefer to receive firearm safety messaging from healthcare providers or firearm advocacy groups**

2017

Secured **Columbus Dispatch Editorial Board support**

2018

Media campaign with Akron Children's Hospital **reached over 194,000 people**

Research project with Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center to study attitudes toward firearms safety discussion

2019

Firearms safety discussions with young children **increased from 2% to 71% in 5 months through Dept. of Public Safety project**

2020

Due to COVID, expanded training and resources to include adolescent suicide prevention, **training > 300 professionals outside medical community**

Discovered need for crisis de-escalation materials

2021

Launched Ohio Dept. of Public Safety supported project in adolescent suicide prevention

Safe storage of lethal means discussions increased by 72%

2022

Secured state, national and corporate investments to expand program, with focus on diverse/underserved populations

ODH and OHMHAS* partnership results in **87 providers trained, 4,000+ youth depression and suicidality screenings**

About the Ohio AAP

Ohio Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics (Ohio AAP), a statewide organization that promotes the health, safety and well-being of children and adolescents so they can achieve their dreams. With membership of more than 2,900 Ohio pediatricians and residents, Ohio AAP is the state's strongest network of education and advocacy professionals focused on pediatrics. In 2022, Ohio AAP members impacted more than 1 million children through quality improvement programs and education.

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Current SIS Partners*

- Akron Children's Hospital
- Black Wing Shooting Center
- Buckeye Firearms Association
- Capitol Consulting
- Cardinal Health
- CareSource
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
- City of Columbus Division of Police
- Columbus Public Health/Safe Kids Central Ohio
- Dayton Children's Hospital
- Dayton VA Medical Center Suicide Prevention
- EMS for Children, Ohio Department of Public Safety
- Fraternal Order of Police
- Kiwanis Club of Columbus
- Krile Communications
- National AAP
- Nationwide Children's Hospital
  - Community Relations
  - Center for Injury Research and Policy
  - Center for Suicide Prevention and Research
  - Partners for Kids
- Ohio AAP Foundation
- Ohio Children's Hospital Association
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation
- Operation Veteran and Caregiver Support
- Preble County Mental Health and Recovery Board
- Reinberger Foundation
- Specialized Alternatives for Families and Youth
- Stark County Health Department
- United HealthCare
- University of Cincinnati Medical Center

**Official budget ask pending approval from partners.*

Buckeye Firearms Association
Kiwanis CLUB OF COLUMBUS
krile COMMUNICATIONS
LIFE SIDE OHIO BY YOUR SIDE. UNITED FOR LIFE.
OHIO'S VOICE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION OSPF Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation