



***Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS)**
Frequently Asked Questions

1. How does the *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS) support and connect to our existing curriculum / current programs?

SS-ARS is designed to prevent individuals who may be in crisis from hurting themselves or others by intervening to get them help. As a result of this approach, SS-ARS will report on of the following primary behaviors/threats that could lead to potential violence or self-harm (not an all-inclusive list):

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| - Bullying / Cyberbullying | - Suicide / Suicide Ideation |
| - Cutting and other self-harm | - Depression / Anxiety |
| - Substance/Alcohol Abuse | - Planned school attack |
| - Anger Issues | - Eating disorders |
| - Fighting/verbal and physical abuse | - Domestic Violence / Child Abuse |
| - Child abuse | - Sexual harassment |
| - Possession of weapon | - Hate crime / speech |

2. Is Sandy Hook Promise a political organization?

Sandy Hook Promise is comprised of two organizations:

1. the Foundation, which is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that develops and delivers community based “Know the Signs” programs and research, and
2. the Action Fund, which is a 501c4 organization focused on writing and passing nonpartisan state and federal legislation promoting gun safety, youth mental health, and violence prevention education for schools.

3. Is SS-ARS focused on gun control?

No. SS-ARS does not have any stake in gun control or 2nd amendment rights.

4. Will I be awakened up in the middle of the night on a regular basis?

No. there is a very small percentage of tips received during overnight hours. Of that small percentage, there is an even smaller percentage that are designated “Life Safety” indicating at least one life in imminent danger, when a member from the school team would need to be contacted.

5. What makes a tip "Life Safety"?

The Crisis Center uses the following rationale to deem whether a tip will be "Life Safety" or not:

- A threat of substantial bodily harm or death
- Imminent / in-progress / just happened
- Credible information (clear, convincing, and evidence provided)
- Suspect has the means / intent to carry out threat
- Actionable (ie enough information available for an intervention or investigation to occur right now)

6. Will this program increase its team members' workload?

No. There will be instances where there is a spike in tips in your specific school/district after the "go live" date when students are trained, or when the students participate in refresher trainings. After this initial period there is a 3-6% tip submission rate.

7. What type of school personnel should be placed on the team?

School team members should have the willingness to review and act upon tips, access to student directories, a good knowledge of their school's student body, and must attend a required SS-ARS Team Training.

8. Will tip data be used to show which schools have more problems than other schools?

No. SHP does not share individual school data. The data is owned by the district and school. However, it should be noted that more tips doesn't mean more problems. More tips symbolize a more connected community of students who are concerned for each other and genuinely want to get friends and classmates help.

9. If there is a request for the school/district to release tip data, are they required to produce such data?

No. Schools and districts own all tip data, and the data is protected by the same state and federal laws as existing school records.

10. What is the standard amount of time that district contracts with Sandy Hook Promise?

The standard Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is three years. After three years, the MOU may be considered for renewal.

11. What kind of tips should teams expect to receive from the Crisis Center?

There are two different type of tips that you should expect to receive from the Crisis Center. The first are tips deemed “Non-Life Safety”. These alerts are sent via text and email between the times of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm Monday-Friday, and 10:00am-6pm on Saturday and Sunday. The second type of tips that will be sent are tips that are deemed “Life-Safety”. These tips will be delivered to the District Team, School Team, and the school’s associated 911 dispatch. “Life-Safety” tip alerts are sent via phone call, text message, and email 24/7/365.

12. How are team members notified of new or updated tips?

Team members are notified of new or updated tips via text messages and emails, at a minimum. If tips are categorized as “Life Safety” by the Crisis Center, team members will receive a text, email, and phone call for secondary notification.

13. Will my school receive a lot of prank tips?

Like all tip lines we are subject to prank tips. Of all tips received by the Crisis Center, about 3% are deemed to be a prank/hoax tip. The Crisis Center has a thorough vetting process for validity and standard protocol of how false tips are handled.

14. How are parents alerted if a tip indicates that their child is in crisis or at-risk of harming themselves or others? Does the Crisis Center call parents? How do they find out parent/student information?

There are two methods in which a parent may be informed that their child is in crisis and/or at-risk. One or all approaches could be used for a given situation:

- 1) School officials: All “Life-Safety” tips are provided to the school district to act upon. Therefore, a school official who receives and acts upon a tip could contact parents/guardians per school policy and protocols.
- 2) First responders/local 911 dispatch: All “Life-Safety” tips are also delivered to 911 dispatch to act upon. Therefore, in the event that first responders are either directly reaching out to a student (especially in an emergency) or working with the school district, contact could be made with a parent or guardian. The most likely scenario is through visiting an at-risk child in their home or after an emergency intervention. As a reminder, the school district is always informed of “Life-Safety” tips in order to work with local 911 dispatch.

The Crisis Center, as part of the triage process of a tip or when corresponding with a first-person at-risk individual, will contact the school district *Say Something* Anonymous Reporting System (SS-ARS) administrator(s) to request parent/student information in an emergency situation only (defined as imminent possibility of loss of life) in order to pass this information to local 911 dispatch. The school district SS-ARS administrator at the moment of the request can make the decision to provide the contact information or work with 911 dispatch directly and not involve the Crisis Center.

15. How can I communicate with the Crisis Center if I have a question about a tip?

There are multiple ways you can communicate any questions about a tip to the Crisis Center. You are able to ask any questions in team communications under the main tab of any tip in your Tip Manager. You can also call the Crisis Center at 305-350-5578, where a Crisis Center staff member will answer any questions you may have.