Making Firearms Safety and Wellness FRONT and CENTER in the Shooting Community

Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA)





Oregon Association of Shooting Ranges (OASR)

Oregon Firearms Safety Coalition (OFSC)













Connecting Oregon's Shooting Clubs and Community to improve Oregon's Firearms Safety and Wellness



Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA.org)

- Oregon's State-wide Shooting Sports Organization.
- Connecting Oregon residents to shooting programs
- Driving /Promoting /Connecting active shooting programs across Oregon
- NRA's affiliate Organization for The State of Oregon





<u>Oregon Association of Shooting Ranges (OASR.org)</u>

- 27 of Oregon's most active clubs driving:
 - Range Operations Best Practices
 - Environmental Best practices.
 - Improvement of Oregon's Shooting Ranges



<u>Oregon Firearms Safety Coalition</u>

- Oregon Firearm Owners Working Together <u>To Prevent Suicide</u> –
- The Oregon Firearm Safety Coalition (OFSC) mission is to prevent firearm suicides in Oregon through voluntary-not mandatory--community-led strategies

Partners:

 NSSF, OSSA, OASR, OHA, OGO, Kids Safe, AFSP, WTTA, VA, County groups, NRA, Sheriffs and Police, and more!

Oregon Firearm Safety Coalition



About Me

- I work in crisis intervention and suicide prevention
- I'm a Clinical Mental Health Counseling Graduate Student
- My father is a Gunsmith
- I'm the wife of a combat veteran
- I'm a survivor of a youth suicide attempt



PPS – 43. Soviet/Polish (Pistolet-pulemyot Sudayeva)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Oregon Firearm Safety Coalition (OFSC) mission is to prevent firearm suicides in Oregon through voluntary--not mandatory--community-led strategies. OFSC will remain a nonpartisan, mission-driven coalition that does not seek to mandate behaviors or restrict the Second Amendment right to bear arms. Rather, we seek to give Oregon firearm owners the resources, information, and skills to support themselves and their loved ones in preventing suicide.



OFSC Guiding Principals

 To have the Oregon firearm community lead the way in preventing firearm suicide.

- To support Oregon firearm owners in discussing and preventing firearm suicide
 - respectfully, creating a space for suicide prevention engagement without fear
 - of restricting Second Amendment Rights.

Who We Are:





































Who we are Building Relationships With:

















A Different Type of Firearm Safety

In Oregon 80% of all firearm deaths are suicide

Number of suicides in Oregon 2017-2019 = 2577

Of this number over 50% or **1332** involved firearms



Firearms are more deadly than all other means for suicide combined

- Oregon has the 9th highest rate of suicide in the nation
- Suicide is the **8**th leading cause of death for Oregon adults (**5**th leading cause of death for 25–55-year-olds)
- Over **50%** of all suicides in Oregon involve a firearm **60%** for Veterans
- Firearms are 85% lethal when used as means for suicide.



Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death for Oregon youth

2019: 113 youth suicides - 50% involve firearms

- 85 % of youths under 18 who died by firearm suicide used a family member's gun, usually a parent's
- Almost 40% of parents wrongly believe their kids don't know where their guns are stored.
- 22% of parents were unaware that their children had found and played with the family's guns.



Second Chances Matter

Anyone can experience a crisis that leads to thoughts of suicide. Most people that attempt suicide don't want to die; they just don't want to experience their pain anymore.

90% of people that survive a suicide attempt do <u>NOT</u> go on to die by suicide. This is because often feeling actively suicidal is temporary - so second chances **REALLY** matter but they almost **NEVER** come with a firearm.

90% of people that survive a suicide attempt do not go on to die by suicide Firearms are 85% lethal when used for suicide



OSSA/OASR Firearms Safety and Wellness



Basic Firearms Safety and Use

- Responsible firearms safety
- Responsible firearms use

 Prevent firearms safety incidents!

Safe / Secure Storage

- Safe storage responsibility
- Enable storage options
- Prevent unauthorized or unintended use!

Children's Safety and Education

 Educate children in clubs and communities

 Prevent children involved firearms incidents!

Crisis and Suicide Prevention

- Bring awareness to suicide crisis
- Enable and connect resources in shooting and surrounding community
- Prevent Suicides!
- The Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA) is committed to promoting and practicing SAFETY and WELLNESS in the shooting sports and communities of Oregon. SAFETY and WELLNESS starts with basic firearms safety handling procedures and safety while enjoying shooting sports, but it also includes safety in secure storage with an emphasis on safety within our families and community, especially with our children and those with crises or mental challenges affecting their lives.

Firearms Safety and Wellness Goals:



- The Oregon State Shooting Association (OSSA) in partnership with Oregon Association of Shooting Ranges (OASR) has adopted key Goals for Oregon's Firearms Safety and Wellness
 - **GOAL 1:** Develop and deploy "Firearms Safety and Wellness Info/Brochure Kiosks" in 80 % of OSSA Clubs.
 - GOAL 2: Establish ongoing child safety/education classes, in 80% of OSSA Clubs, and train 2X each club's current member count (requires community outreach)
 - **GOAL 3:** Establish and deploy New Member Orientation suicide prevention training tools (presentation, video, ...) in 80% of OSSA clubs.

THE ASK:

- OSSA/OASR to work with Member Clubs to:
 - Leverage the existing systems in place at each club
 - Develop remaining programs to meet the goals.
 - Share with other clubs in Oregon.

Key Programs for Oregon's Firearms Safety and Wellness

- 1. Firearms Safety and Wellness Info/Brochure Kiosks
- 2. Ongoing age-appropriate child safety/education classes
- 3. New Member Orientation Elements to include suicide prevention training tools (presentation, video, ...)



Backup

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- OSSA website (<u>www.ossa.org</u>) has installed the key goals and key resources for Oregon's shooting community.
- Let's tour the improvements <u>www.ossa.org/safety-wellness</u>
- Your review and input is appreciated send input to <u>president@ossa.org</u>

Making Firearms Safety and Wellness FRONT and CENTER in the Shooting Community



OSSA and OASR ACTIVE programs to raise awareness, educate, and drive improvement.

- 1. Establish and maintain New Member Orientations sessions and club resources that include <u>Responsible Firearms Owner</u>, <u>Child safety</u>, and <u>Suicide Prevention</u> videos to orient new members of the responsibility they have in our sport..
- 2. Establish a club sponsored child safety program, with age-appropriate trainings (K-4, 4-8, 6-9) with a key goal is to reach 3x the club member count (this means community out-reach).
 - NSSF's McGruff the Crime Dog, NRA's Eddie Eagle Program, and/or Oregon's own KidsSafeFoundation,
- 3. Establish and Maintain key information 'Kiosks' within the club grounds.
 - OSSA/OASR Safety and Wellness resources and contacts.
 - Key Suicide prevention information utilizing National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) and American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) sponsored materials.

OSSA/OASR Member Clubs will meet July 10, 2021, to initiate these 3 initial steps in actively making our communities safer.