



Safer Homes, Suicide Aware is a public health campaign focused on simple steps to prevent suicide deaths and attempts long before a crisis occurs.

Safer Homes is also relevant to mitigating the opioid crisis and the prevention of accidental poisonings and firearm deaths.

This module was developed by public health experts and is intended to be inserted into suicide & injury prevention trainings and firearms safety courses.

# SAFER HOMES HELP PREVENT TRAGEDIES IN U.S.

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SUICIDES BY  
FIREARMS & MEDS



**27,224**  
**deaths**

MEDICATION  
OVERDOSES



**31,029**  
**deaths**

CHILD  
POISONINGS



**767**  
**deaths**

ACCIDENTAL  
DEATHS BY  
FIREARMS



**489**  
**deaths**

# MEDICATION SAFETY

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1. Lock
2. Limit Access
3. Take-Back
4. Dispose

**Order materials at  
[SaferHomesCoalition.org](https://www.SaferHomesCoalition.org)**

# SAFER HOMES INITIATIVE STEP 1



## LOCK UP EXTRA MEDICATIONS

- > Lockable metal box (\$25-\$30)
- > Locking plastic container (\$10-\$15)
- > Travel lock bag (\$15-\$30)



*Example: MedSafe Medications Electronic Lock Box Cabinet*

# SAFER HOMES INITIATIVE STEP 2

**LIMIT**  
in-home supply of  
over-the-counter  
medications

## LIMIT THE AMOUNT OF OVER-THE- COUNTER MEDICATIONS

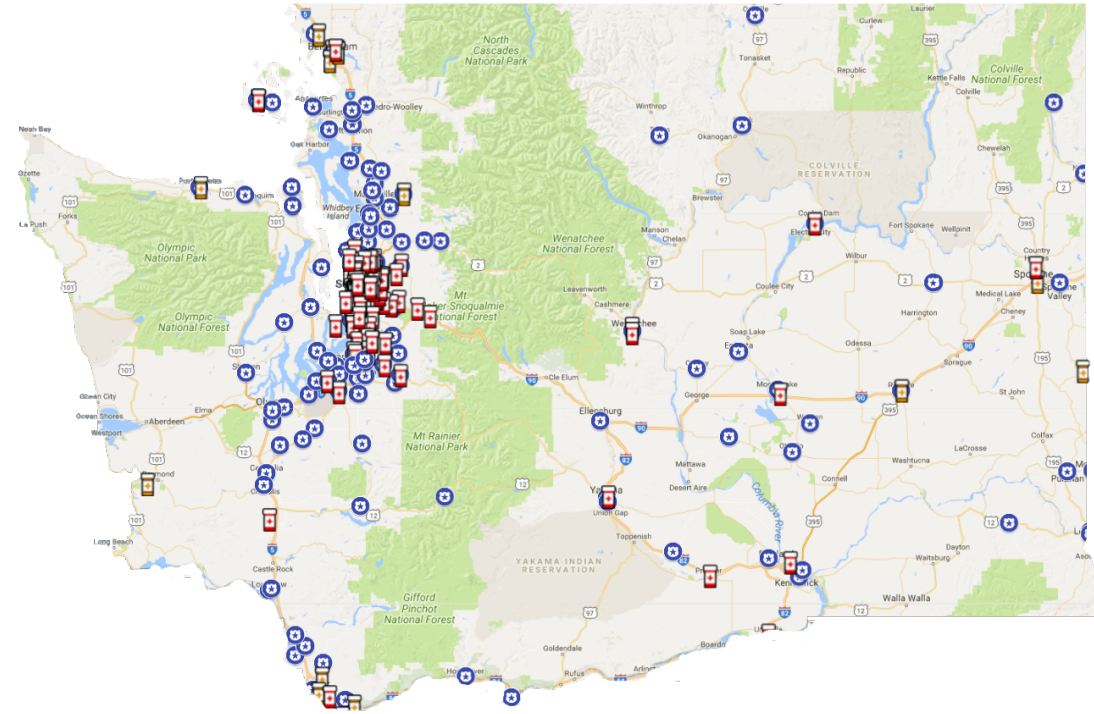


# SAFER HOMES INITIATIVE STEP 3

**TAKE-BACK**  
go to  
[takebackyourmeds.org](https://takebackyourmeds.org)

## RETURN UNUSED MEDICATIONS

> To find locations visit:  
[TakeBackYourMeds.org](https://TakeBackYourMeds.org)



# SAFER HOMES INITIATIVE

## STEP 4

**4**  
**DISPOSE**  
of meds with kitty litter  
or coffee grounds;  
place in your trash

### DISPOSE OF MEDICATIONS AT HOME

- > Mix into coffee grounds or kitty litter
- > Place in trash with covered container
- > Or, purchase a drug disposal kit online



# SAFER HOMES POSTCARD: MEDICATIONS



You do so much to keep your loved ones safe...

- ✓ Car seats
- ✓ Smoke alarms
- ✓ First Aid kits
- ✓ Bike helmets

**LOCK UP AND LIMIT ACCESS RX MEDICATIONS AND FIREARMS**

**SUICIDE IS PREVENTABLE**  
Medication overdoses too.

Go to [SaferHomesCoalition.org](https://www.SaferHomesCoalition.org)

These steps protect against suicide/overdose/poisoning

<b>1</b> <b>LOCK UP</b> your RX medications	<b>2</b> <b>LIMIT</b> in-home supply of over-the-counter medications
<b>3</b> <b>TAKE-BACK</b> go to <a href="https://takebackyourmeds.org">takebackyourmeds.org</a>	<b>4</b> <b>DISPOSE</b> of meds with kitty litter or coffee grounds; place in your trash



 **SAFER HOMES SUICIDE AWARE**

You Can Save A Life



# ACT BEFORE A CRISIS OCCURS

**ACT TODAY TO STOP SUICIDE**  
Long Before a Crisis Occurs



...he was an excellent marksman

He had done all his safety training...

**SUICIDE WAS THE LAST POSSIBLE THING ON OUR MINDS**

**LOCK AND LIMIT ACCESS TO YOUR FIREARMS**

There were 6,578 firearm deaths\* in Washington State between 2005-2015



**78% SUICIDES**

**SAFER HOMES SUICIDE AWARE**

\*Statistic from the WA Tracking Network, Dept. of Health

# DO YOUNG PEOPLE LIVE IN OR VISIT YOUR HOME?

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**My lovely but impulsive granddaughter**  
**My granddaughter was 16 when she ended her life with her grandfather's firearm she found in his dresser drawer.**

**My 14 year old son**  
**My son was 14 when he used my gun to end his life. Suicide wasn't on my radar.**



**My neighbor's son**  
**Our neighbor and his friends used to fool around with the guns in the abandoned trailer near my home until he used one to end his life.**

# YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE

Do Young  
People Live  
In or Visit  
Your Home?

## LOCK UP

For their protection, do not allow children & teens unsupervised, unauthorized firearm access

## LIMIT

Only firearm owner should access keys and combinations

## CHOOSE

Carefully select a safe storage device for home-defense firearm with fast access for only you

**82%** OF TEENS WHO DIE BY SUICIDE WITH A GUN USE A FAMILY MEMBER'S FIREARM

Concerned  
About  
Yourself, Friend  
Or Family  
Member?

## HOLD

Give a trusted individual keys and combinations

## TRANSFER

Ask a friend or relative to hold firearms in an emergency temporary transfer

## CALL

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline  
**1-800-273-8255**  
Veterans Press 1  
Crisis Text: 741-741



**SAFER HOMES  
SUICIDE AWARE**

**YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE**  
[SaferHomesCoalition.org](http://SaferHomesCoalition.org)

# LIMITING ACCESS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

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- > For their protection, lock-up, do not allow children and teens unsupervised or unauthorized access
- > Limit access to the authorized gun owner ensuring only he/ she or a designee can access keys and combinations
- > Firearm for home protection? Choose and invest in a safe storage device that affords quick access for only you.

# LOCK BOXES FOR SPECIFIC NEEDS



**Life Jacket**  
**\$22 - \$44**  
**Depending on**  
**model**



**Lock Box**  
**\$23-\$150 and up**



**Gun Safe**  
**\$169 - \$2,291**

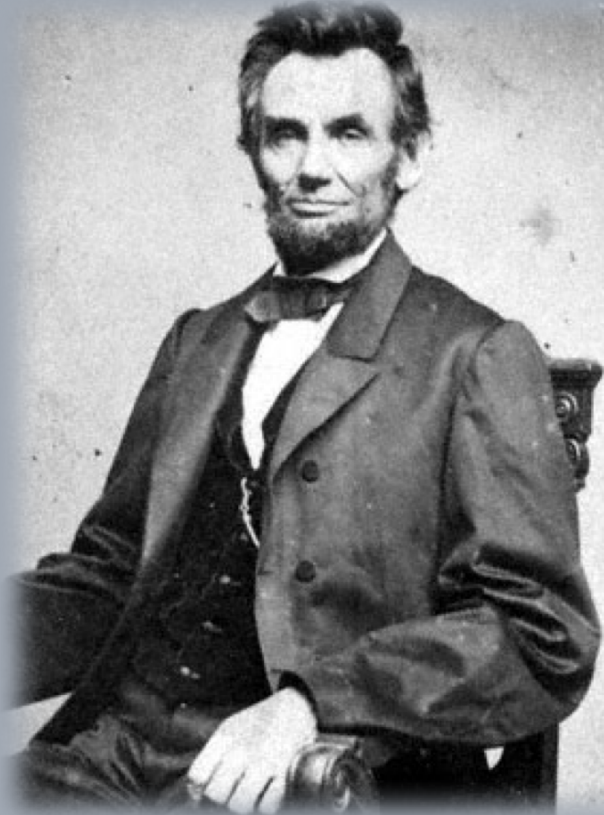


**SentrySafe Quick Access**  
**Pistol Safe Biometric Lock**  
**\$104-\$199**





**Hornady RAPiD Safe**  
**Access w/ RFID bracelet**  
**\$169**

# Concerned about yourself, a friend or family member?



**HOLD** – Give a trusted individual  
 keys & combinations

**TRANSFER** – Ask friend, relative  
 to hold firearms in emergency  
temporary transfer

**CALL** – National Suicide Prevention  
 Lifeline 800-273-8255  
Veterans Press 1  
Crisis Text Line 741-741



**SAFER HOMES**  
**SUICIDE AWARE**

**Thank you!**

**For educational materials and more  
information, go to  
[SaferHomesCoalition.org](https://SaferHomesCoalition.org)**