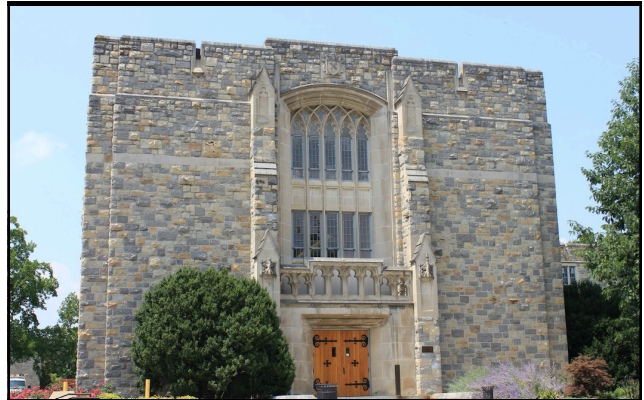




Safety is Personal: Lessons Learned as a Survivor of the Virginia Tech Tragedy

@KoshAnderson | @Koshka4Schools
www.koshkafoundation.org



Norris Hall



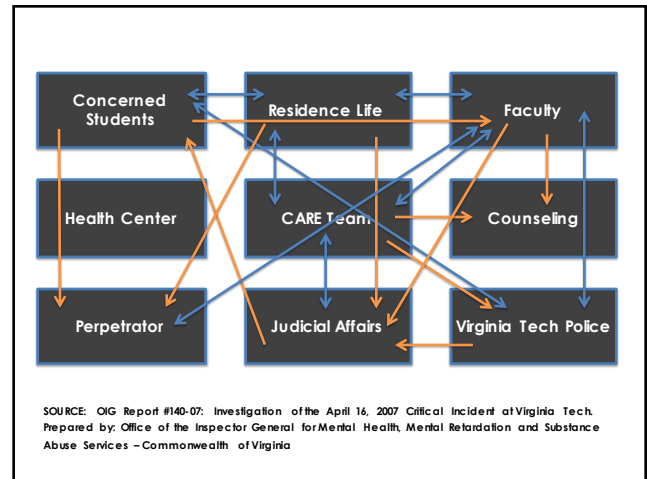
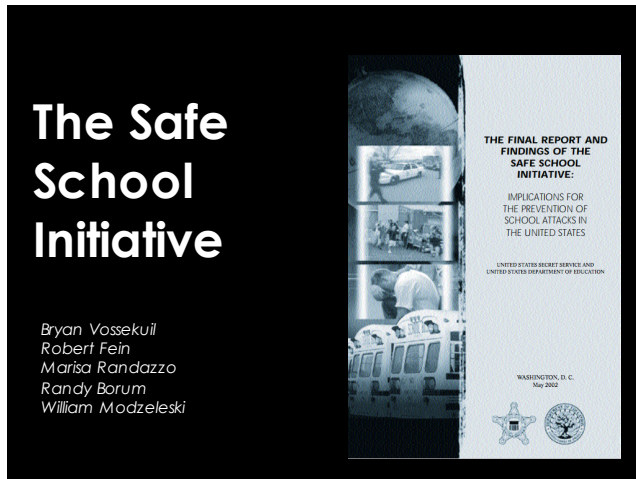
Safe School. Safe Future.

Our Mission:

To increase awareness and levels
of individual preparedness for:

violence prevention,
active shooter response,
and crisis recovery

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Importance of "The Safe School Initiative"

- Incidents of targeted violence at schools rarely were sudden impulsive acts.
- Most attackers did not threaten their targets directly prior to advancing the attack.
- There was no useful or accurate "profile" of students who engaged in targeted school violence.

Source: "Final Report of the SSI Initiative" Vossekuil, Bryan; Fein, Robert; Randazzo-Reddy, Marisa. www.secretservice.gov/nrlac_ssi.shtml

Civilian Active Threat Response

Virginia Tech – April 16, 2007

Perpetrator: 23 year old university student
Background: Extreme social anxiety, selective mutism, suicidal ideation
Duration: 10-12 minutes
Deceased: 32 (28 Students, 5 Faculty)
Survivors: 17 (Physically injured)
Resolution: Suicide
Weapons: Firearms (Carrying chairs, knife)



Implications:

1. Legislation for threat assessment teams in K-12 and higher education
2. Active shooter training in all-hazards emergency management plans
3. Breaching tools for law enforcement
4. Importance of mass notification tools on college campuses
5. Questions relating to FERPA, student privacy

Considerations in Training for the Public

- Age & extent of prior safety training
- Mindful of our language and imagery
 - *Tragedy, massacre*
- Preparing in advance for prior traumatic experiences within audience

Recovery



<http://digitalsc.lib.vt.edu/april16>

Tone

- We will prevail.
- We are Virginia Tech
- Hokies United
- 32 for 32
- NeVerForget
- Ut Prosim



Philosophy of Recovery

Tiered approach for immediate and long-term outreach and community support:

- Physically injured individuals
- Non-physically wounded, witness to violence
- Present in close proximity
- First responders
- Affiliated family members, coworkers, spouses



John-Michael & Ellen Keyes
<http://iloveugays.org/>



Safe and Sound
 Michele Gay & Alissa Parker
www.safeandsoundschools.org



The Rebels Project
<http://therebelsproject.org/>



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