Cautions

- Take every suicidal threat seriously. Not paying attention to a person's warning could set him or her up for an attempt that could end in death.
- Do not take unnecessary risks when working with a person who is threatening or attempting suicide. There is often a homicidal thought process that is associated with a suicide attempt. The person may be willing to kill another person in his or her suicidal actions.
- There is not one way to deal with a suicidal person that will work in every case. Suicide is a very individual and personal act. The background, feelings and thoughts that have led to a suicidal crisis are unique to each person.
- Emergency personnel who help during a suicidal crisis may be exposed to intense emotional states that trigger feelings of discomfort and insecurity. Call for assistance and hand off the case to someone else if you are becoming emotionally involved and losing your objectivity.

