

Main Office  
184 U.S. 41 East,  
Negaunee, MI 49866  
[www.mqthealth.org](http://www.mqthealth.org)



## PRESS RELEASE

TO: All Media

FROM: Sarah Derwin, Health Educator

DATE: July 29, 2026

SUBJECT: Suicide Prevention Training for Gwinn Area Schools Athletic Coaches

The Marquette County Suicide Prevention Alliance is pleased to partner with the Gwinn Area Community School's Athletic Director, the Gwinn All-Sports Booster Club, and the Up North Lodge Conference Center to offer a free, 1.5-hour suicide prevention gatekeeper training to all coaches, assistant coaches, and booster club members in the school district.

On Monday, August 3, a Question, Persuade, and Refer (QPR) training will be held at the Up North Lodge Conference Center from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Participants will learn the basics of suicide, risk factors and warning signs, and how to intervene and help if they believe someone may be struggling with thoughts of suicide.

"We know that often teens look up to their coaches and view them as very trusted adults," said Sarah Derwin, Health Educator at the Marquette County Health Department. "This is an excellent opportunity to train and have a productive conversation to ensure that those trusted adults feel equipped and supported if any of their athletes show any signs they may be struggling".

To schedule an interview, attend the training for footage, or if you would like more information, please contact:

Sarah Derwin, Health Educator, Marquette County Health Department

Email: [sderwin@mqtco.org](mailto:sderwin@mqtco.org)

Phone: 906-236-3680

Luke Ghiardi, GACS Athletic Director

Email: [luke.ghiardi@gwinnschools.org](mailto:luke.ghiardi@gwinnschools.org),

Phone: 906-346-9247

####