Suicide Knowledge and Skills Questionnaire  
(Smith, Silva, Covington, & Joiner, 2013)

Suicide Knowledge

*Please rate your agreement with the following statements using this scale:*

- Completely Disagree = 1
- Disagree = 2
- Don’t know = 3
- Agree = 4
- Completely Agree = 5

1. Few people want to kill themselves.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “**correct** = 1” 3-5 scored as “**incorrect** = 0”]

2. Youth ages 10-24 have a significantly greater risk of suicide than individuals aged 65 and older.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

3. The rate of suicide among those with severe mental illness is 6 times the general population.  
   [Answer: True. 4, 5 scored as “correct,” 1-3 scored as “incorrect”]

4. If a person is serious about suicide, there is little that can be done to prevent it.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

5. If you talk to a client about suicide, you may inadvertently give them permission to seriously consider it.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

6. Depression indicates a suicide risk.  
   [Answer: True. 4, 5 scored as “correct,” 1-3 scored as “incorrect”]

7. Suicide is always unpredictable.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

8. Suicidal people want to die.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]

9. Individuals with Borderline Personality Disorder frequently discuss or gesture suicide but do not really intend to kill themselves; instead they intend to provoke or manipulate others.  
   [Answer: False. 1, 2 scored as “correct,” 3-5 scored as “incorrect”]
Suicide Skills

*Please rate your agreement with the following statements using this scale:*

- Completely Disagree = 1
- Disagree = 2
- Don’t know = 3
- Agree = 4
- Completely Agree = 5

1. I have received the TRAINING I need to engage and assist those with suicidal desire and/or intent.

2. I have the SKILLS I need to engage those with suicidal desire and/or intent.

3. I have the SUPPORT/SUPERVISION I need to engage and assist those with suicidal desire and/or intent.

4. I am comfortable asking direct and open questions about suicide.