



This is the official newsletter of **Operation Lifesaver Utah (OL Utah)**, a nonprofit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail crossings and trespassing on railroad tracks.

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State Coordinator's Message – 2016 Operation Lifesaver Utah Annual Report

Another year has passed and OL Utah has finished its annual report. While statistics do not tell the entire story, data in the report provides good information for us to evaluate what happened in 2016. Table 1 shows the highway-rail grade crossing and trespass incidents for both the United States and Utah. Utah's rank in 2016 for highway-rail grade crossing incidents was tied for 10th best and for trespass incidents Utah was tied for first best. We are consistently in the best 15 states most every year. In addition to freight and tourist rail, the statistics below include UTA TRAX light-rail and FrontRunner commuter rail numbers for Utah. However, intentional incidents (suicides) are not included.

Table 1 – 2016 Crossing and Trespass Statistics

	Crossing Collisions	Crossing Fatalities	Crossing Injuries	Trespass Fatalities	Trespass Injuries
National	2,034	263	824	494	489
Utah	9	1	3	1	0

Source: Federal Railroad Administration, May 2016.

Table 2 shows the number of OL presentations given and the number of people who received those presentations by category. Reporting is extremely important to our program to show our safety partners the marvelous work that our volunteers perform in Utah. Reporting for 2016 was a good reporting year, but there is room for improvement. Please remember to report presentations within 10 days of giving them.

Table 2 – 2016 OL Presentations in Utah

Category	Presentations Given	Presentation Recipients
Pre-Kindergarten/Headstart	1	17
K-8 Grade	15	813
High School	11	324
Drivers Education	486	15,149
School Bus Drivers	103	696
Commercial Buses	0	0
Professional Drivers	7	39
Law Enforcement	1	25
Emergency Responders	0	0
Miscellaneous General Adult	80	1,379
Totals	704	18,442

Source: OL Utah 2016 Annual Report.

In 2016, the OL Utah booth was represented 32 times reaching approximately 27,476 people. Special thanks to all of our presenters and safety partners for the success we had in 2016!

OL Utah Booth Update

Thanks for all those who participate in the booths sharing the Operation Lifesaver safety messages. Operation Lifesaver Utah attended the following events during the first and second quarters of 2017.

- The Ophir, Tintic & Western Model Train Show at Thanksgiving Point in Lehi on January 13 & 14, 2017.
- The Kanab Model Train Show at the Kanab City Library on February 11, 2017.
- The iHeart Media Safe Kids Fair at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy on February 25, 2017.
- The Hostlers Model Railroad Festival at Ogden Union Station in Ogden on May 3, 4, & 5, 2017.
- The Monticello Academy Safety Fair in West Valley on April 7, 2017.
- Camp Williams Military Children Day at Camp Williams in Bluffdale on April 22, 2017.
- Utah Drivers' Traffic and Safety Education Conference at the Dixie Conference Center in St. George on May 12 and 13, 2017.

- The Utah Trucking Association Conference at the Dixie Conference Center in St. George on May 11, 2017.
- The Utah Asian Festival at the South Towne Expo Center in Sandy on June 10, 2017.
- The Utah Department of Public Safety Family Safety Fair at the Utah Department of Transportation in West Valley on June 15, 2017.
- The Lehi Roundup Rodeo in Lehi on June 22, 23, and 24, 2017.

Suicide by Train Data

Beginning in 2011, the Federal Railroad Administration allowed railroads to report suicide or “intentional” as a separate category and not part of the trespass data. Table 3 shows the fatalities and injuries by suicide or attempted suicide.

Table 3 – Fatalities and Injuries by Suicide				
Year	National		Utah	
	Fatalities	Injuries	Fatalities	Injuries
2011	183	23	6	0
2012	269	46	2	1
2013	313	27	2	2
2014	273	39	3	0
2015	322	31	9	0
2016	229	33	5	2
Total	1,589	199	27	5

Source: Federal Railroad Administration, May 2016.

We can all help prevent suicide. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline phone number is 800-273-8255. This Lifeline is free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals. If you know of someone that in need of this phone number, please share it with that person.

