

## 2.3. Hot-line program for Suicide Prevention

### 1) Project background

- The mortality rate due to suicide ranks first among the injury mortality rates of Hwaseong citizens and is a major national problem, requiring intensive management. In response, the Mayor of Hwaseong has been showing political leadership for suicide prevention, choosing the ‘Suicide Prevention Hot-Line’ project as his first initiative after becoming Mayor and as the first in the country.

### 2) Project details

- The Suicide prevention hot-line is a direct phone line where people can call for counseling when they have suicidal thoughts, and specialized personnel are present to provide counseling, and police, fire, hospitals, and other departments in charge of Hwaseong City jointly respond to risk groups.
- After conducting counseling through the suicide prevention hot-line, if they request continued counseling, they are referred to a suicide prevention center or related organizations, and regular monitoring is conducted. In addition, a hotline for suicide prevention in the region was established by promoting the ‘Suicide Prevention Hwaseong Mayor Hot-Line’ to identify vulnerable people at risk of suicide.

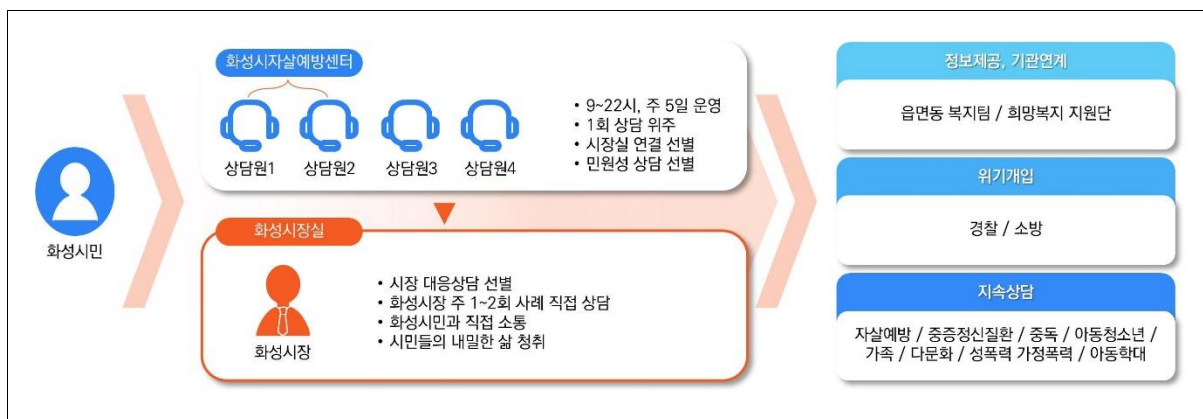


Figure 14. [Good Practice 3] Suicide Prevention Hot-Line System

### 3) Project performance

- The number of people counseled through the suicide prevention hot-line was 138 people in 2022 and 530 people in 2023, of which 48 cases were reported to the Mayor of Hwaseong, and one and two regional care meetings were held for difficult cases in 2022 and in 2023, respectively.
- The hot-line contributed to saving precious lives of the citizens of Hwaseong who had suffered from the urge to make extreme choices.



Figure 15. [Good Practice 3] News Release on Suicide Prevention Hot-Line



Figure 16. [Good Practice 3] Suicide Prevention Hot-Line: Recharge Hwaseong Citizens' Mind Concert: 'Turning Crisis into Opportunity'