

CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 9, 2014

Location: Armed Forces Reserve Center,
Middletown, CT

Present: Lisa Barry (UConn Center on Aging), Emily Betts (JMPF intern), Lynn Biella (CT Air National Guard), Kevin Borrup (CT CMC), Craig Burns (DOC), Heather Clinger (Wheeler Clinic), Kathleen Costello (Office of the Child Advocate intern), Michele Devine (SERAC), Jennifer Donnelly (DMHAS intern), Andrea Duarte (DMHAS), Michael Dutko (CT Army National Guard), Helen Evrard, MD, Barbara Fasulo (Saint Francis Hospital), Amy Hanoian-Fontana (CT Poison Control Center), Latonya Harts (Newington VA), Jean Haughey (Enfield Youth Services), Mui Mui Hin-McCormick (APAAC), Celeste Jorge (DPH), Susan Logan (DPH), Tim Marshall (DCF), Chinedu OKeke, MD (DPH), Yania Padilla (Accenture Federal Services), Andrea Reischerl (DOC), Matt Riley (JMPMF), Margaret Rosa (CCADV), Susan Tobenkin (CT Army National Guard), Meryl Tom (DPH), Faith VosWinkel (Office of the Child Advocate), and LoriBeth W. Young (DSS).

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	OUTCOME / ACTION/RESPONSIBLE
I. Welcome and Introductions	Tim welcomed the group and initiated introductions.	
II. Presentation: Dr. James R. Gill, Chief Medical Examiner, Office of the Chief Medical Examiner	<p>Currently there are five medical examiners in the state, all of whom are forensic pathologists. There are two more positions being hired. There are 50 employees in the department with toxicology being outsourced to a private lab.</p> <p>Dr. Gill indicated that Penny Geyer, one of the investigators in his office, is interested in outreach to family members who have been affected by suicide. Dr. Gill would like to have a standard letter with resources available in the state.</p> <p>Due to the sensitive nature of Dr. Gill's presentation, the Power Point link is only available upon request.</p>	<p>Dr. Gill's Power Point presentation is available upon request by contacting: Andrea.Duarte@ct.gov</p>
III. Review of Minutes and Follow Up	August and September minutes accepted.	

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<p>IV. Updates regarding priority areas & sub-committees</p>	<p><u>Awareness Campaign</u> Review of September events and outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was discussion among the group regarding the September event “The Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS): A Conversation with Dr. Kelly Posner, C-SSRS Developer.” Many board members indicated that they would have liked Dr. Posner to have focused more on the “nuts and bolts” of C-SSRS and go over the tool rather than just discussing where it is being used. Tim Marshall was impressed with the number of places that the C-SSRS has been implemented. He indicated that it may be implemented as a training module for the 150 EMPS staff but he is looking for an in-person trainer. Jean Haughey said that Dave DeNino was doing C-SSRS training for Enfield on Friday, October 10, 2014. Andrea Duarte mentioned that there is a self-directed training on the C-SSRS website. She also indicated that the DMHAS mobile crisis response is interested in how C-SSRS fits with The Joint Commission standards. • There were many events held statewide, including information tables in various EMPS locations and two programs hosted by the Institute of Living: September 10 “Suicide Prevention in Older Adults” and September 23 “Cracked Not Broken: A Suicide Survivor’s Experience with Kevin Hines.” • The VA Mental Health Summit was hosted at the Reserve Center in Middletown. Susan Tobenkin reported that there were 130 attendees consisting of members of the military, community organizations and community members. There were resource tables and many presentations, including one by General McHale on “Military 101.” Maureen Pasko was honored with a challenge coin for her work with suicide prevention. Andrea Duarte extended a “thank you” to Wheeler Clinic for coordinating the lunch for the VA Summit and breakfast for the C-SSRS event. • Jean Haughey reported that there were QPR trainings at Asnuntuck Community College; 150 students and staff were trained. There were also tables with information on suicide prevention and substance use. • The Department of Public Health received information from Meryl Tom on suicide prevention in the workplace and information on their EAP services. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latonya Harts reported that there was a roundtable with Senator Murphy and Senator Blumenthal regarding suicide in the state of Connecticut. There was also an article in the <i>New Haven Register</i>. • Matt Riley reported that The Jordan Matthew Porco Memorial Foundation has held several Fresh Check Days to date. Senator Murphy and Representative Himes attended Sacred Heart University’s Fresh Check Day. Senator Blumenthal attended the one held at Central Connecticut State University. <p>UCONN Package</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Marshall informed the board that there will be full-page suicide prevention advertisements for UCONN home athletic events for the entire school year. The PSAs will not be posted because UCONN tries to keep the atmosphere at the games positive and upbeat. CTSAB can have a tent outside the football stadium with information. <p><u>Statewide Network</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Duarte reported that she is trying to make a connection with a regional contact at the Coast Guard. • Northern CT AFSP Chapter meeting will be on October 29, 2014, 6:30pm at the CASAC office. <p><u>Evidence-Based Practice Promotion</u></p> <p>Suicide Prevention-Related Grants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAMHSA Suicide Prevention Grants- Andrea Duarte said two submitted were not awarded. DMHAS is awaiting feedback. • SAMHSA Now is the Time Grant- Healthy Transitions Youth and Young Adult Grant- Tim Marshall presented information about this grant, which is focused on transitioning youth from DCF to DMHAS if they need further support when turning 18. DMHAS is the lead in collaboration with DCF. This is a high school-based intervention utilizing an intensive care coordination model that will be in three communities: Middletown, New London and Milford. • SAMHSA Mental Health Block Grant- Tim Marshall reported two amendments will be executed for Wheeler Clinic and United Way of CT. • SAMHSA Prevention and Treatment Block Grant- Andrea Duarte stated that SAMHSA is increasing support and encouragement for use of BG dollars to integrate suicide and substance abuse prevention where there are shared risk and protective factors and effective crossover strategies. • • CDC Public Health Block Grant- Andrea Duarte reported for Chinedu Okeke, DPH that they are working with Wheeler Clinic in order to initiate a contract to address some of the suicide prevention goals and objectives. • 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anyone interested in volunteering at the tent can send an email to Tim Marshall tim.marshall@ct.gov or Andrea Duarte andrea.duarte@ct.gov. Tim will keep the board posted on what will occur during basketball season. • Contact Tom Steen for more information: tsteen@casac.org.

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<p>V. Member Updates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDC NVDRS Grant- Susan Logan informed the board that Connecticut was one of 16 states awarded the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) grant. This is a five-year \$925,000 grant. With the awarding of these grants, 32 states will now be tracking violent deaths. DPH staff will be trained in the system in December. An advisory board will be convened to begin in January 2015. <p>Intervention-Postvention Response Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gill reported that he will assign his staff, Penny Geyer, to participate regularly in the CTSAB <p>Armed Forces Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly meeting of the committee is November 13 at the Reserve Center. All are welcome. <p><u>State Plan</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tim Marshall and Andrea Duarte will be meeting soon regarding the plan. • Tim Marshall reported that there are discussions around materials that can be created, possibly including a quick guide, executive summary, legislative brief, and other marketing materials. There will be a draft letter created to be signed by the Commissioners. <p><u>Member Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Out of Darkness walks scheduled in Westport on October 11, 2014. • Merle Thomas reported that DPH has a school-based health center at Newtown Middle School. • Celeste Jorge informed the board that the sample has been selected for the 2015 YRBS. Previous data was released in June and can be accessed at www.ct.gov/dph/cshs. • The Jordan Matthew Porco Memorial Foundation Gala will be March 7, 2015, at Mohegan Sun. <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:06am.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faith VosWinkel will reach out to Penny Geyer of the OCME. • For more information on the Armed Forces Committee contact Mike Dutko at michael.t.dutko.civ@mail.mil

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<p>VI. Upcoming Meetings</p> <p>Meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 9:00am—11:00am</p> <p>MG Maurice Rose Armed Forces Reserve Center 375 Smith Street Middletown, CT 06457</p>	<p>11/13/14 Rosemary Baggish, Institute of Living: Independent Schools Study 12/11/14 State Plan 01/08/15 Jennifer Glick, DMHAS Older Adult Services: Older Adult Suicide 02/05/15 Dr. Nina Heller, UCONN School of Social Work: AAS Psychological Autopsy 03/12/15 Faith, Spirituality and Suicide Prevention (tentative) 04/09/15 Faith VosWinkel, Office of the Child Advocate: Child Fatality Review 05/14/15 Tom Matthews, Solutions EAP: Workplace Suicide Prevention in Employee Assistance Programs 06/11/14 Annual Planning Meeting 07/09/15 Alternatives to Suicide Support Group (tentative)</p> <p><u>Topics TBD:</u> 08/13/15 09/10/15 Awareness Month 10/08/15 11/12/15 12/10/15</p>	