## CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** Thursday March 8, 2012  
**Location:** United Way of CT, Inc., Rocky Hill, CT  
**Present:** Tim Marshall (Dept. of Children and Families), Meryl Tom (Dept. of Public Health), Andrea Duarte (Dept. of Mental Health Addiction Services), LoriBeth Williams Young (Dept. of Social Services), Phil Wyzik (Mental Health Association of CT), Ashley Mayo (Office of the Child Advocate), Faith Voswinkel (Office of the Child Advocate), Greyson Houle (True Colors), Corrine King (Wheeler Clinic, Inc), Jacey Liu (Wheeler Clinic, Inc), Sara Wakai (UConn Health Center), Nin Rovinelli-Heller (UConn School of Social Work), Wendy Caruso (United Way of CT 2-1-1), Maureen Pasko (VACT), Marisa Glarnella-Porco (JMPMF), Kathleen Sauicer (CTNG), Marcia Dufore (NCRMHB), Tom Steen (CASAC)

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| V. GLS CT Campus Suicide Prevention Initiative Kick Off, April 4, 2012 and CTSAB Meeting | Four campuses have been funded by the Garrett Lee Smith CT Campus Suicide Prevention Initiative (CCSPI) grant- Connecticut College, Manchester Community College, Norwalk Community College, Sacred Heart University. The application was very ambitious and many other schools felt they weren’t ready to apply because of their current situation or administrative views on the topic. | CTSAB members must register to attend the 4/4 CCSPI Kick Off Event using the link on the invite.  
4/12 CTSAB meeting cancelled. |

The CCSPi Kick-Off will be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2012 from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Central Connecticut State University in the Connecticut Room of Memorial Hall. The Jed Foundation will present on their approach to addressing mental health promotion on college campuses. The Government Project Officer from SAMHSA and federal cross-site evaluator from ICF International will attend. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served. All members of the CTSAB, GLS Advisory Committee and CT Healthy Campus initiative are invited to attend. The new CTSAB awareness campaign will be released at the event during lunch; see further information in section IV.

Attendees determined that the 4/4 Kick-Off will serve as the April CTSAB meeting, and that the 4/12 meeting will be canceled.

After the Kick Off event, DMHAS, Wheeler and UCHC will meet with the new campus grantees to orient them to programmatic and evaluation responsibilities. CTSAB members need not attend.
### IV. Statewide Awareness Campaign: “1 Word, 1 Voice, 1 Life... Be the 1 to start the conversation” Campaign

The proofs of the three posters and brochure were shared with the group. The messaging doesn’t immediately communicate suicide to prevent bias of young people and encourage conversation. Brochure is folded to fit easily in a pocket.

Posters, brochures, bags and t-shirts will be given to those who attend the 4/4 meeting. An order form will be created for people to order additional print products. It will be determined whether a cap or nominal fee will be necessary once demand is determined. Video will be shown during lunch at 4/4 event.

The [www.preventsuicidect.org](http://www.preventsuicidect.org) website will be developed to include access to all awareness materials, the videos, a calendar of suicide prevention events, related training opportunities, and community resources for prevention and response. The primary format has been developed by the CCSU Graphics students and reflects the awareness campaign.

Corrine will work with Tim and Andrea to develop an order form and ordering procedures.

Tim will work with United Way or Wheeler Clinic to develop the technical components of the websites.

### III. Suicide Prevention and Response System Gaps Discussion

Recent deaths around the state have resulted in the identification of community needs and service system gaps. The CTSAB needs to develop a strategic plan, revise the state plan, and develop recommendations to the DCF Commissioner, and others, to address the following issues:

- Towns need help addressing the issue memorializing vs. glorifying a death by suicide
- EMPS is working to train their managers and administrative staff to serve as more knowledgeable, creditable sources who can provide response support to communities
- AFSP offers outreach and support to families, bereaved survivors, who have experienced a death
- Suggestions of appropriate responses to a death and attempts should be developed for: towns, schools and communities
- Need to implement evidence-based, best practice Gatekeeper training at the community level. Currently the OPR site list 30 trainers in CT, most of whom are campus affiliated and not necessarily available to communities
- Need to be proactive instead of reactive when attempts and deaths occur
- Nina suggested developing a “road map” for responding to suicide that community officials can utilize and would be accessible on the website
- Better coordination with crisis responders (Police, EMT) and Office of the Chief Medical Examiner need to occur to ensure timely response of resources available to grieving communities and to prevent additional loss of life by suicide
- Through the CCSPI, DMHAS, DCF and Wheeler are working with the NAMI NH to bring the Connect Prevention-Intervention and Postvention Models to CT at the local level utilizing DMHAS and DCF regional resources. Marisa is interested in the youth model and would like to see more peer to peer approaches in the state

Tim, Andrea and Wheeler staff have a scheduled call with NAMI NH 3/9, and DMHAS will be meeting with Regional Action Councils 3/12.
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### II. Strategic Planning Meeting Planning

- **Thursday, May 10th, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.** Location TBD, lunch will be provided.
- Tim views the strategic planning process to include 1. inventory of services, 2. identification of gaps, 3. infrastructure development, 4. fill the gaps 5. develop solutions. Board members will further discuss and plan on 5/10.
- Goals and strategies need to be identified- long & short term
- Phil sought clarification about the strategic planning process and timeline
- Board discussed that a 3-year plan might be best; to be discussed in detail on 5/10.
- Hire a professional, external facilitator for 5/10 so all members of CTSAB may be participants in the activities
- Develop recommendations to Commissioners and Governor
- ID who is missing at the table
- Andrea has secured Rob Aseltine, Director, UCHC Institute for Public Health Research to prepare and present a suicide-related data presentation to the CTSAB on 5/10 that will include CT data on thoughts, behaviors and deaths across the lifespan. This will support a data driven process.

- Meryl, Nina, Tom and Faith will meet/discuss with Tim and Andrea the format of the day and acquire a facilitator.
- Corrine will locate a room.

### VI. Member Sharing/Other Business

- Jordan Matthew Porco Memorial Foundation is having a fundraiser at the Connecticut Science Center on 3/10/11 at 7:00 p.m.
- CT Clearinghouse shared a list of resources on suicide that can be borrowed
- It was decided that the back of future agendas will be dedicated to suicide prevention events that members of the CTSAB wish to share until the website calendar is set up
- Andrea and Corrine disseminated copies of “Preventing Mental, Emotional, and Behavioral Disorders Among Young People.” Additional copies are available for CTSAB members by contacting the CT Clearinghouse.

- Corrine will send links out on list serv to CT Clearinghouse resources.