

## CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** Thursday, January 12, 2017

**Location:** Armed Forces Reserve Center  
Middletown, CT

**Present:** Christina Allen (VA Hospital), Jason Bannon (CWA 1298), Heather Clinger (Wheeler Clinic), Andrea Duarte (DMHAS), Laura Durst (IOL), Michael Dutko (CTARNG), Ernie Elliott, Amy Evison (CHR), Jim Fox (CTARNG), Penny Geyer (OCME), Marisa Giarnella Porco (Jordan Porco Foundation), Karen Hanley (CHR), Karen Hensley (ABH), Celese Jorge (DPH), Nancy Kelly (DMHAS), Walter Krauss (UCHC Correctional Managed Health Care), Nicole Lombardi (Retreat Premier Addiction Treatment Centers), Stephanie Luczak (Office of Child Advocate), Meagan MacGregor (CTARNG), Mike Makowski (DPH), Stephen Mendelsohn (Second Thoughts CT), Cecilia Miller (SAVE Hartford), Kim Moonan (DMHAS), Kevin Murray (DMHAS), Allyson Nadeau (Beacon Health Options), Lucy Orellano (Office of Child Advocate), Jonathan Pohl (CCSU), Simone Powell (CHR), Andrea Reischerl (DOC), Matt Riley (Jordan Porco Foundation), Megan Rock (Office of Child Advocate), Heather Spada (United Way CT), Tom Steen (CASAC/CPN), Kenyatta Thompson ( UCONN SSW), Susan Tobenkin (CTARNG), Meryl Tom (DPH), Trisha Vayda (Assn School Nurses of CT), Sara Wakai (UCHC), Shebrikea Warburton (CHR), Cheryl Weinstock (Freelance Journalist), Heather White (AFSP Northern CT), and LoriBeth Young (DSS).

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION /RESPONSIBLE
<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	Andrea Duarte and Tim Marshall welcomed the group and initiated introductions	
<b>II. Presentations</b>  <i>Mental Health Advocacy</i>  Suzi Craig Mental Health Connecticut Senior Director of Advocacy and Development	Suzi Craig, Senior Director of Advocacy and Development of Mental Health Connecticut, discussed the organizations beginning's and current objectives. Mental Health Connecticut is concerned with three main goals: advocacy, education and services. Though the organization does not directly have programming or initiatives specifically focused on suicide, suicide prevention is "built into the DNA" of the organization. For example, within 30 days of working with an individual, a trauma screening and intervention plan is conducted. Populations served are young adults and adults, with a majority of their programs housing-focused.  For a copy of the presentation, visit: <a href="https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Files/customer-files/2341-About-MHC---Presentation-for-Suicide-Adv-Board---1-12-17.pdf">https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Files/customer-files/2341-About-MHC---Presentation-for-Suicide-Adv-Board---1-12-17.pdf</a>	
<b>III. Review of Minutes and Follow Up</b>	Minutes from the December meeting were accepted.	
<b>IV. Updates</b>	<u><b>Foundations</b></u> Jordan Porco Foundation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala will be held on March 25, 2017 at the Foxwoods Resort and Casino.</li> <li>• The foundation is currently in the process of revamping the "4 What's Next" program. They hired a curriculum writer from CREC and are looking at how the model could be included within youth service bureaus, youth diversion programs and youth faith groups.</li> <li>• Nine Out Of Ten now includes a Youth Ambassadors program. It is a peer-to-peer</li> </ul>	

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	<p>program designed to provide students with information on suicide prevention that they can disseminate to other students. As part of the ambassador program, there is a new website and incentive component for ambassadors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The foundation works closely with the Connecticut Injury Prevention Center to evaluate their programs.</li> </ul> <p>American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 6 volunteers and 2 staff members from both AFSP Connecticut Chapters will attend the National AFSP Leadership Conference in Irvine, CA.</li> </ul> <p>SAVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Hartford charter is working with the New London charter on a May event. Currently, they are deciding between two venues and will provide further information when available.</li> </ul> <p><u>Committees</u></p> <p>Armed Forces-Community Health Promotion Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The peer to peer program is still in development.</li> <li>• There is no meeting in January.</li> </ul> <p>Data and Surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celeste Jorge reported that the committee met with the CT Poison Control Center to review their available data as they have an independent database and unique set of data. They discussed the high rates of poisoning attempts and deaths in the state. Amy Hanoian Fontana from the CT Poison Control Center will be joining the committee. Tim Marshall reported that there may be an opportunity for safe messaging and means restrictions around over-the-counter medications that individuals don't usually think to lock up.</li> <li>• The committee also discussed how the Poison Control database does not link up with other databases to follow an individual who has been hospitalized for a poisoning. Due to confidentiality laws, it is difficult to track an individual through systems to see the outcome of their hospitalization. Tim Marshall suggested investigating if there are some data tables that can be run annually and to look throughout the state at databases that may be useful. He said the goal of the committee is to find out what data is available and to get it automated.</li> <li>• Rob Aseltine from UCONN Health will create a single fact sheet that combines the adult data and the youth data that discusses suicide attempts and deaths from poisoning.</li> </ul>	

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	<p>Intervention-Postvention Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no meeting this month. A conference call may be planned.</li> <li>• Tom Steen reported that there are more reports from AFSP support groups of people showing up with the folder that funeral homes give out after an untimely death.</li> </ul> <p>Lethal Means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim Marshall discussed movements on the suicide prevention displays for the gun shops. After looking over the safe gun messaging material from the National Shooting Sports Foundation, the committee will brand the material from the CTSAB with the “1 Word” logo.</li> <li>• Tim Marshall and Andrea Duarte clarified the goal and purpose of the group. They emphasized that the Lethal Means Committee is not only limited to firearms; it is focused on all lethal means.</li> </ul> <p>Student Well-Being</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim Marshall thanked Celeste Jorge and Amanda Pickett for their leadership with the committee and reminded board members that the campaign is to raise awareness for school personnel, primarily teachers.</li> <li>• Celeste Jorge thanked the individuals who provided feedback on the suicide prevention resource card and accompanying companion document for educators in the state. Additionally, she answered questions regarding the audience of the card; she explained that its purpose is to be used for teachers to refer a student to the appropriate resource in school.</li> <li>• Celeste Jorge extended an invitation for others to join the committee—especially for those who work with youth or in a school environment.</li> </ul> <p>Zero Suicide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A total of 17 systems in the state have incorporated Zero Suicide into their organization and are part of the learning community.</li> <li>• The Committee is currently waiting to hear back as to whether they were accepted to as a conference presenter at the American Association of Suicidology Conference.</li> <li>• Kenyatta Thompson, MSW intern with DMHAS, is creating a crosswalk between the elements of zero suicide and The Joint Commission’s Sentinel Event Alert: “Detecting and Treating Suicide Ideation in All Settings.” She will share her findings with the larger group.</li> <li>• Andrea Duarte has joined the DMHAS Commissioner’s Policy Group to determine if there are gaps and how their current policies line up with the Joint Commission’s</li> </ul>	<p>Joint Commission Sentinel Event Alert:</p> <p><a href="http://www.ctclearinghouse.org/files/customer-files/1850-SEA-56-Suicide-2-24-16-FINAL.pdf">http://www.ctclearinghouse.org/files/customer-files/1850-SEA-56-Suicide-2-24-16-FINAL.pdf</a></p>

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	<p>Sentinel Alert.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrea Duarte, Patty Graham and Mike Hogan have met to discuss how to start tracking progress and benchmarks.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Suicide-related Federal Grants</u></b></p> <p>DPH Block Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This grant is funding the suicide prevention PSA currently seen on TV and working with firearm retailers on suicide prevention.</li> </ul> <p>Garrett Lee Smith (GLS) Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Way is preparing to send out the statewide needs assessment.</li> <li>• A C-SSRS training will be held the end of January, primarily focused on training individuals in the Manchester area.</li> <li>• CHR has hired a data coordinator.</li> </ul> <p>Zero Suicide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to Andrea Duarte, a highly competitive federal grant may be on the horizon related to Zero Suicide.</li> </ul> <p>Opioid Grant</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrea Duarte briefly discussed a grant that would provide \$5.5 million dollars over two years related to opioid treatment and prevention.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Legislative/Budget Updates</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim Marshall reported that the state budget has to be close to being finished by the end of February. Anticipating layoffs and at least a 10% reduction.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Awareness Campaign/Website</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tim Marshall reminded board members to continue to encourage people to use the website <a href="http://www.preventsuicidect.org">www.preventsuicidect.org</a> to order 1 Word materials. Once the current inventory of materials is depleted, updated materials will be printed.</li> <li>• If you know of any clinicians, licensed mental health professionals, outpatient providers or anyone working in Behavioral Health, please direct them to the <a href="http://www.preventsuicidect.org">www.preventsuicidect.org</a> for materials.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>State of CT Suicide Prevention Plan (PLAN-2020)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As Dr. Heller has returned to UCONN, she is no longer available to write an update report as to what has been done since PLAN-2020 was released. If you are interested or know of someone who may be interested, please contact either Andrea Duarte or Tim Marshall.</li> </ul>	

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	<p><b><u>National Prevention Week—Suicide Prevention Day is Friday, May 19, 2017</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andrea Duarte reminded members that a display and materials are available if anyone is planning to do an event on Suicide Prevention Day as part of National Prevention Week.</li> <li>• More information to come related to overall National Prevention Week activities.</li> </ul>	
<b>V. Member Updates</b>	<p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responding to a question from a member about support group information, Tim Marshall indicated he would see how that information could be gathered and sent out on the CTSAB listserv.</li> <li>• Tom Steen will have another QPR Train the Trainer (TOT) on January 31, 2017, at Central Connecticut State University from 8:00 am – 4:30 pm.</li> <li>• Jonathan Pohl reported that Central Connecticut State University should be hiring a Wellness Program Administrator position soon.</li> </ul> <p>The meeting adjourned at 10:55 am.</p>	
<p><b>VI. 2017 Meeting Schedule</b></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 <b>Middletown, CT 06457</b></p>	<p>Contact Andrea Duarte with suggestions for meeting presenters/topics, andrea.duarte@ct.gov</p> <p>2/9/17: Megan Simonian and Victoria Ballet, students of Farmington High School and Chris Brennan, instructor at JEKL, Plainville, <i>Suicide Prevention Fitness Fundraiser Focused on Fostering Mental, Emotional and Physical Empowerment</i></p> <p>3/9/17: Brad Cole (Spartacus) and Jenifer Adams (Gizmo), K9 First Responders, <i>Psychological Trauma Stress Management</i></p> <p>4/13/17: Xaviel Soto, Department of Consumer Protection, <i>Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (tentative)</i></p> <p>5/11/17: Maria Sullivan, ECHN, <i>Manchester HOPE Initiative (tentative)</i></p> <p>6/8/17: TBD</p> <p>7/13/17: Jonathan Pohl, Central Connecticut State University, <i>Campus GLS Grant</i></p> <p>8/10; 9/14; 10/12; 11/9; 12/14: Topics TBD</p>	<p><b>In the event of inclement weather,</b> the CTSAB meeting is cancelled if Middletown Schools are closed. If they have a delay, the meeting will still take place. Here is a link for closings and delays: <a href="http://www.wfsb.com/category/211195/school-closings">http://www.wfsb.com/category/211195/school-closings</a></p>