

CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, December 14, 2017

Location: Armed Forces Reserve Center
Middletown, CT

Present: Christina Allen (VA), Ann Irr Dagle (Brian Dagle Foundation), Amy Evison (CHR), Khalil Forbes (Behavioral Health Team Admin Support), Penny Geyer (CT OCME), Karen Hanley (CHR), BreeAna Johnson (Office of the Child Advocate), Chris McCarty (CT National Guard), Cecilia Miller (SAVE Hartford), Steven Rogers (CCMC), Michele Scott (Eastern AHEC), Gregory Simpson (Beacon Health Options), Susan Tobenkin (CT National Guard), Arnold Trasente (DCF), Faith VosWinkel (Office of the Child Advocate), Shebrieka Warburton (CHR), Abby Wood (DMHAS), and LoriBeth Young (DSS)

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION /RESPONSIBLE
I. Welcome and Introductions	Andrea Duarte and Tim Marshall welcomed the group and initiated introductions	
II. Presentations <i>Mashantucket Pequot Skeehch Wuyeeekan: Good Medicine Project, Native Connections Grant</i> Michele Scott, Eastern AHEC/Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation	Michele Scott presented on the Good Medicine Project, a 5 year project (2016-2020) to address suicide in youth that incorporates culture and traditions into services. There has been a reported 600% increase in documented suicide attempts by tribal youth in the past 5 years. Isolation is a major risk factor for these youth. The grant-funded program has multiple objectives including a community needs assessment, the creation of a strategic plan, development of policies and procedures to promote coordination of care, integration of suicide and substance abuse prevention into programming and schools and hosting community events. December presentation: https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/CTSAB_12_14_17_presentation.pdf	
III. Review of Minutes and Follow Up	Minutes from the November meeting were accepted.	
IV. Updates	<p><u>Foundations</u></p> <p>American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The merger is on track and there will be a retreat on February 10th for both chapter boards to create a plan moving forward. The March meeting will have more updates regarding a statewide board. <p>The Benny Fund</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new updates at this time. <p>Brian T. Dagle Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Jingle Bell 5k was a success and well-attended. • Brian’s Healing Hearts is officially open and running. Save the date for an open house on January 27, 2018. <p>The Jordan Porco Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 4 What’s Next program is starting in Manchester public schools in collaboration 	

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	<p>with the work of the GLS grant.</p> <p>Suicide Awareness Voices for Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 5k was held in May and was successful. • A partnership is developing with the Lifeline Support Center. <p><u>Committees</u></p> <p>Armed Forces-Community Health Promotion Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a current push to get everyone ASIST trained. • The planning of Military Fresh Check Day has begun. • Leadership will meet on December 20 to revisit zero standard card distribution. <p>Data and Surveillance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last meeting was cancelled. The next meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday of the month (January 8, 2018) at 10:00 AM at DPH. Sarah Wakai will present on regional data. <p>Intervention-Postvention Response</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More folders have been ordered and the sub-committee has moved into more of a maintenance phase. • There will be a meeting in January with funeral home directors to get information on their specific needs. • The Groton police department was grateful for information and materials they received after asking for resources. This led to a discussion and proposal to focus on increasing contact with police chiefs and law enforcement. <p>Lethal Means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last meeting discussed the firearm initiative and challenges that it encountered. Moving forward, a face-to-face approach will be used to get more of an active response from retailers. A script will be developed to be used when talking to retailers. • The Department of Transportation (DOT) requested consultation on what to do following a death. The sub-committee has decided to invite the DOT to join the meetings and/or call in. • The sub-committee will be looking into disseminating “1 Word” campaign signage somewhere inside the commuter trains. • The work group is open to new members and will meet the first Friday of the month at 1:00 PM at the United Way of Connecticut. • Tim Marshall proposed altering the name from Lethal Means Sub-Committee to “Environmental Safety Sub-Committee” to mirror the shift that is happening around language related to lethal means. It is proposed to use both names for a period of time and then transition. No definite decision was made at this time. 	

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	<p>Student Wellbeing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials are printed and first round has been out. • No new updates otherwise. <p>Zero Suicide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The learning community decided that when Middletown Public Schools have a delay, the 8:00AM meeting will be cancelled. • The most recent meeting discussed counseling access to lethal means and CCMC and the VA were highlighted. • The language around the issue is changing and “restriction” is often being replaced with “environmental safety.” • The committee discussed creating tools for practitioners to start the conversation around lethal means. There could be a subgroup developed to bring in CPA, NASW to facilitate a sustainable core-competency series where CEUs could be offered. • There will be no January meeting. Instead there will be a webinar for those interested in applying to the Zero Suicide Academy in May. Mike Hogan and Becky Stoll will be coming to the academy. <p>State Conference Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee has established greater detail regarding presenters and workshops. So far everyone invited to present has agreed to attend. Mike Hogan will speak in the morning and Dequincy Jones has agreed to speak in the afternoon. • A trip to the Omni hotel is planned for next week so that committee members can see the venue and get a better idea of the space. <p><u>Suicide-related Federal Grants</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CoIIN: lifeline providers are looking at continuous quality improvement and how to decrease the number of dropped calls. Since the lines already have a relatively low drop-rate, decreasing the numbers may be more difficult. • There has been work around connecting the CONNECT grant with the Garret Lee Smith grant. <p><u>Legislative/Budget Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new updates at this time. <p><u>Awareness Campaign/Website</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gizmo curriculum development is moving forward. Once measurable outcomes are established and discussed with evaluators, the official recruitment for pilot sites will begin. There are many interested schools and youth service bureaus. Feedback on any work done with the book is always welcome • There is a suggestion to make “Gizmo” an established agenda item moving forward. 	

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V. Member Updates	<p><u>Member Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hartford and New Haven will have gun buy-backs on Saturday, December 16 where unwanted firearms can be exchanged for gift cards. <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:01 AM.</p>	
<p>VI. 2018 Meeting Schedule</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>Contact Andrea Duarte with suggestions for meeting presenters/topics, andrea.duarte@ct.gov</p> <p>2018 meetings: 1/11/18: Elizabeth McOsker, Jordan Porco Foundation, <i>Trends in Emergency Department Visits by Young Adults for Suicide Attempts in Connecticut, 2011-2015</i> 2/8, 3/8, 4/12, 5/1*, 6/14, 7/12, 8/9, 9/13**, 10/11, 11/8, 12/13 *5/1/18: State Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Promotion Conference, OMNI, New Haven **9/13/18: National Suicide Prevention Week Event</p>	<p>In the event of inclement weather, 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: http://www.wfsb.com/category/211195/school-closings</p>