

## CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** July 11, 2024

**Location:** Zoom Virtual Meeting

**Present:** Dani Amaral (Amplify), Mike Aguino, Anagha Babu, Gerry Baird (Clifford Beers), Nicole Bengston, Amery Bernhardt (CT Ctr for School Safety), Rob Bibbiani, Kevin Borrup (CT’s Children), Stephanie Bozak (DCF), Jessica Casella (VA CT), Heather Clinger (Wheeler), Alice Demeo (DCF), Anastasia Domnich-Kovalevsky (Torrington Area Health District), Peter Doria (CTARNG), Andre Duarte (DMHAS), Imara Elizabeth, Irina Esterlis, Amy Evison (CHR), A Fitzgerald, Arianna Flagg (Town of Somers), Lisa Girard (FAVOR), Grace Grinnell (NAMI Farmington Valley), Rob Harrison (YNHH), Emma Hollis (Western Coalition), Angela Jimenez (DPH), Robert Kanehl (CT Poison Control), Angie Karwoski (Bristol-Burlington Health District), Pamela Kelley (CSSD), Hsiu-Ju Lin, Cathy Ludlum (Second Thoughts CT), Mollie Machado (DMHAS), Mike Makowski (DPH), Abby Wood Maldonado (Western Coalition), Amanda Mihaly (UConn SSW/DMHAS), Briana Miller (Carelon), Lorena Mitchell, Michael Monterosso, Michael Moravec (CT DOC), Sara Moriarty, Allyson Nadeau (Amplify), Victoria O’Neill (The Hub), Lucy Orellano (OCA), Jonathan Perloe (CCAGV), Ashley Perreira, Michelle Peters (AFSPCT), Marie Plumer (Living Works), Erica Previtis (DPH), Wanda Reyes-Dawnes (CT State: Manchester), Matt Riley, Steven Rogers (CT’s Children), Paulette Schwartz (Hartford Healthcare), Kara Sepulveda (Quinnipiac Valley Health), Nicole Shea (Veterans Health Administration), Marissa Sicley-Rogers (IOL), Richard Siddall (SMART Recovery), Jeffrey Swanson, Alyeska Tilly (United Way CT), Susan Tobenkin (CTARNG), Nadine Tulloch (DPH), Kristen Volz (CT’s Children), Sara Wakai (UConn Health), Jennifer Waldo (Windsor Health Dept) and LoriBeth Young (DSS).

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION /RESPONSIBLE
<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	Stephanie Bozak and Andrea Duarte welcomed attendees	
<b>Review of Minutes</b>	June minutes approved	
<b>II. Presentation</b>  <i>Extreme Risk Protection Orders and Suicide Risk</i>  Jeffrey Swanson, PhD Professor, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Duke University School of Medicine  Reena Kapoor, MD Associate Professor, Psychiatry in the Law and Psychiatry Division	- 1999-2013 Study - When issued, warrants were mostly for middle-aged white men with a mean age of 47 in rural and suburban areas - Younger people: relationship stressors - Older people: health stressors and loss - Suicide risk was greater than violence risk with study respondents having a 40x greater suicide risk compared to the general population of CT - Gun seizure was a pathway to entering DMHAS treatment 2013-2020 Study - Connecticut, along with FL, MD, WA, CO, and CA, was part of the six-state study of Extreme Risk Protective Orders (ERPO) from 1/1/2023-6/30/2024 - Firearms removed from 92.5% men, 7.5% women with a mean age of 47.5 years mostly in suburban and rural communities	

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<p>Yale University School of Medicine</p> <p>Michael Norko, MD, MAR Professor of Psychiatry in the Law and Psychiatry Division Yale University School of Medicine</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reasons for removal: harm to self (69.3%); harm to others (39.4%); harm to self and others (13.5%); neither (5.8%)</li> <li>- In CT there were 1407 petitions, 1394 unique individuals</li> <li>- ERPOs in CT more likely to be issued because of suicide risk than violence risk; 80% of ERPO petitions include mental health concerns and 45% substance use</li> </ul> <p>To view the presentation, visit: <a href="https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Content/www/files/PDFs/Suicide_Advisory_Board_7-11-24_rev_RK.pdf">https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Content/www/files/PDFs/Suicide_Advisory_Board_7-11-24_rev_RK.pdf</a></p> <p>Presenter bios: <a href="https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Content/www/files/PDFs/July_2024_CTSAB_Presenter_Bios.pdf">https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Content/www/files/PDFs/July_2024_CTSAB_Presenter_Bios.pdf</a></p>	
<p><b>III. CTSAB Business Reports</b></p>	<p><b><u>CTSAB Board and New Meeting Structure for 2024</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Committee and foundation report outs will be alternating each month</li> <li>- The coalition part of the meeting will begin at 9:00am</li> <li>- The last half hour of the meeting will be for appointed board members to meet</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Suicide-related Grant Initiatives</u></b></p> <p><b>988</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- In CT there is “no wrong door approach”—211 and 988 available</li> <li>- 988 builds off the existing national suicide prevention lifeline</li> <li>- CT received the second 988 implementation grant which goes until September 2026</li> <li>- Goals are to increase CT’s 988 suicide and crisis lifeline capacity to serve in-state users and build capacity to ensure that calls are answered locally so they do not roll over to the national line</li> <li>- Benchmarks in CT are: answer at least 90% of total calls that originate in the state; answer at least 90% of the total chats and 90% of total texts that originate in the state</li> <li>- 80% calls typically resolved over the phone for adults; 70% resolved in the field; 65% discharged to the community and 85% remain stable in community-based care</li> <li>- United Way is the single service agency for Connecticut’s Contact Center handling crisis calls that come in via crisis lines 211, 988, and the ACTION line as well as chats and texts</li> <li>- Hover around 90% answer rate within 15 seconds</li> <li>- Total calls in June: 4,961; 4507 answered; of those not answered locally, rolls over to the national line</li> </ul>	

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	<p>To view the presentation, visit:  <a href="https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/988_update_CTSAB_2024-07-11_revised.pdf">https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/988_update_CTSAB_2024-07-11_revised.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Regional Suicide Advisory Boards</u></b>  <a href="https://www.preventsuicide.org/about-us/regional-sab-business/">https://www.preventsuicide.org/about-us/regional-sab-business/</a></p> <p><b>Region 1/Southwestern</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased training requests for QPR and Mental Health First Aid; more than 100 trained in June</li> <li>- Narcan trainings include mental health awareness</li> <li>- Needs assessment currently being conducted</li> <li>- Postvention TOT for all RSAB leads</li> <li>- Working with Recovery Friendly Workplaces to put out information</li> <li>- Planning for September with topic of burnout and compassion fatigue</li> <li>- It's OK to Talk About It</li> <li>- Next meeting: July 25</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 2/South Central</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- QPR offered twice a month</li> <li>- Offering virtual L.E.T.S. Save Lives</li> <li>- NAMI Connect TOT</li> <li>- Next meeting: August 6</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 3/Eastern</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 4/North Central</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NAMI Connect TOT</li> <li>- Gizmo read along in Windsor</li> <li>- QPR in September Windsor Health Department</li> </ul> <p><b>Region 5 /Western</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Two QPR trainings for statewide parks and recreation staff</li> <li>- QPR for WCSU scheduled</li> <li>- Some staff attended QPR TOT</li> <li>- Supported two municipalities in the last two months with postvention response</li> <li>- Next meeting: September 27</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Foundations</u></b> (report out in April, July, Oct, Dec, Feb)</p>	

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	<p><b>American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP)</b> <a href="https://afsp.org/chapter/connecticut">https://afsp.org/chapter/connecticut</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Volunteer appreciation event held in June; Ann and Paul Dagle received lifetime achievement award</li> <li>- Increase in Talk Saves Lives requests, including Introduction to Firearms and Suicide Prevention Talk Saves Lives</li> <li>- All CT Walmart store staff to be presented Talk Saves Lives</li> <li>- Five Out of Darkness walks beginning in September; info on the website</li> <li>- There are tabling opportunities at no charge for the upcoming walk season</li> <li>- There are two open board seats</li> <li>- To volunteer for AFSP CT, contact Michelle Peters at <a href="mailto:mpeters@afsp.org">mpeters@afsp.org</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Brian Dagle Foundation</b> <a href="https://brianshealinghearts.org/">https://brianshealinghearts.org/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul> <p><b>Jordan Porco Foundation</b> <a href="https://www.rememberingjordan.org/">https://www.rememberingjordan.org/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul> <p><b>My Friend Abby</b> <a href="https://www.myfriendabby.org/">https://www.myfriendabby.org/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Committees</u></b> (report out in June, Aug, Nov, Jan, March)</p> <p>July committee updates can be accessed here: <a href="https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/CT_SAB_-_Committee_Update_2024-07.pdf">https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/CT_SAB_-_Committee_Update_2024-07.pdf</a></p> <p><b><u>Awareness Campaign</u></b> <a href="https://www.preventsuicidect.org/">https://www.preventsuicidect.org/</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- No update</li> </ul>	
	Coalition meeting adjourned 10:34am	
<p><b>2023-2024 Meeting Schedule</b></p> <p>Meetings are the second Thursday of the month, 9:00am—11:00am</p>	<p><b><u>Dates/Presentations</u></b></p> <p><b><u>2024 Meeting Dates/Presentations:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 8/8: Mel Cordner, Q Plus, LGBTQ+ Unhoused Youth and Suicide Risk</li> <li>- 9/12: Special National Suicide Prevention Week Event</li> <li>- 10/10: Michaela Fissel, Advocacy Unlimited, Language to Support Recovery</li> <li>- 11/14: Jessica Casella, VACT, Veteran Suicide Prevention and Compact Act</li> </ul>	

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Meetings are currently scheduled virtually. Please refer to the monthly meeting announcement for meeting information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 12/12: Paulette Schwartz, LCSW, MPH, CPXP, Laurel Reagan, APRN, Kathyria Oyola-Cartagena MPH, MS, TEACH QPR: A Partnership for Hope</li> <li>- <b>Subcommittee meetings are listed in the monthly meeting announcement sent on the CTSAB listserv.</b></li> </ul>	