



Region 2 Suicide Advisory Board (RSAB) Meeting Agenda

Time: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 at 10:30 am via Microsoft Teams

Facilitator: Kara Sepulveda-Fonseca – APW

Welcome & Introductions [5 minutes]

Attendees:

Eve Hein – APW, Anya Badstuebner – AmeriCorps/APW, Ben Eaves – APW, Sarah Blodgett – CTARNG/APW, Odali Rodriguez – Clinton Human Services, Tracy Tenesaca – NVHD, Natalie Claude – Catholic Charities, Mikhela Hull – Carelon, Briana Miller – Carelon, Stephanie Pina – New Haven Health Dept, Lisa Trupp – Naugatuck Valley Health District, Sadie Witherspoon – CT Center for School Safety, Erin Moroni – Vita Health, Lorena Mitchell – City of New Haven, Nina Robertson – Wallingford Health Department, Nicole Shea – VA CT, Erica Skoutas – Bridges Healthcare, Austin Telford – Naugatuck Valley Health District, Captain Mike Fummiatti – New Haven Police Dept, Barbara Naclerio – East Shore District Health Department, Francis Fisco – Clifford Beers Youth Mobile Crisis

Sector Engagement Updates [20 minutes]

- Report out for seniors, home visiting staff and law enforcement
 - o Kara shared a visual of the 12 sectors and provided an update on which sectors were present in the RSAB previously (school representatives, local government, behavioral health) and how we are looking to expand representation
 - o Brief check in with RSAB members who shared they would reach out to other sectors
 - Lisa Trupp/Senior Centers: Outreach to Ansonia senior center and developing a QPR lunch and learn, shared that they are currently working on their community health assessment, will be inviting those individuals and the director (Chris) to RSAB meetings
 - Sadie Witherspoon/Mental health community and home health agencies: Outreach to moms impacted by postpartum depression, shared that she had a meeting with Jennifer Vendetti and is waiting to hear back
 - Abby/Law enforcement: Not present
 - Lorena Mitchell: Shared that law enforcement is provided with leave behind guidance in terms of an overdose, NHPD does have resources following a suicide (COMPASS), and differs dependent on youth vs adult
 - Unsure how formal protocol is states that there is room to strengthen referrals and warm handoffs
 - Francis Fisco: Shared that mobile crisis is notified of an untimely death/suicide and their community team is often asked to provide resources to the community

- Unsure of what those resources look like but does have some brief information on safety concerns (HI, SIB, SI) and 211
- Francis shared that while the documents are currently being updated, will share once complete.
- Captain Fummiatti/Law enforcement: Shared that NHPD hands out a state form for all victims and separate state handout
 - Unsure how compliant officers are
 - Recommended a QR code/specific website to compile all resources for families to access
 - Possible to have officers provide QR code to resources and process of outreach to families after loss
 - Compass does have follow up, unsure what that looks like
- Mikhela Hull: Developed resource cards for law enforcement that lead to resources, connecting to care site.
 - Spanish and English version – digital copies to be shared with group
 - Scan data provided
- Lorena: Had conversations with local media surrounding untimely deaths/youth suicides and best practices in suicide prevention
 - Ensuring that they are reporting in a sensitive manner
 - Suggestion: have a media roundtable/conference to discuss suicide and best practices. Fummiatti shares that they have a good relationship with media in New Haven, will touch base with contacts
 - Nicole Shea shared that the VA has a safe messaging best practices guide
 - [Safe Messaging Best Practices Guide](#)
 - Lorena asks if we could have a media specific RSAB meeting with regional partners to start the conversation with those partners
- Review “10 ways to Support the RSAB” resource material
 - Provide additional context for screening/referrals
 - Stephanie Pina asked about including SOS for middle schoolers
 - Including website/QR code to specific training list
 - Erin Moroni shares to add actionable items to each number
 - Develop youth vs adult handout
 - Provide to youth after SOS presentations
 - Barbara Naclerio recommends reducing number of words on the handout and providing links/action items instead of explaining everything
 - Sharing that funding/budget changes have impacted their staff
 - Erica shares that she likes the content/color scheme
 - Recommends if developing a youth handout, provide 5 ways to support mental health
 - Use back of the card to give ‘what’s next’ and action steps for seeking help if friends or someone you love comes to you

Listserv Review: Discuss contact information and sector identification for shareable spreadsheet [5 minutes]

Legislative Session Updates [5 minutes]

- Kara asks for success stories in region/creative ways we engage our community in suicide prevention and mental health promotion
- Requests to email her by the 14th

Lethal Means Signage Initiative [15 minutes]

- Discussion on hot spots for 988 messaging in specific towns
 - Wanting to get signs in Spanish/English
 - Goal: directing people to 211 and 988
 - Downtown Green by the bus stations in New Haven
 - East Rock State Park – Overlook
 - Lorena shares that they do have a sign but may not be very visible
 - On buses/bus stations
 - West Haven Beach Boardwalk
 - State parks (Sleeping Giant, East Rock, West Rock, Hammonnasset, etc.)
- Ben: asks if we could produce/develop signage encouraging attending a community QPR training

Community Updates: Trends, Needs & Upcoming Events [10 minutes]

- Opportunity for RSAB members to address any specific needs and share updates
 - Erica Skoutas shares that Kim from Milford Prevention Council is looking for a guest speaker for their February meeting surrounding youth mental health, teen dating violence, LGBTQIA+ as their speaker just pulled out
 - Virtual meeting on February 11th at 3:00pm
 - South central network of care through Clifford Beers is hosting Alternatives to Therapy Forum for youth
 - Q house from 10:00am to 12:00pm on Friday February 21st
 - Mikhela sharing details with Kara along with resource cards
 - Ben Eaves shares APW is hosting an adult drinking conference on April 1st

April In-Person Meeting [5 minutes]

- Ideas: community mapping and campaign messaging

Closing & next meeting [5 minutes]

- Update: Doodle poll will be sent to RSAB members to pick another date and time for April's in-person RSAB meeting (2 hours)