

CT Suicide Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: September 11, 2025

Location: Zoom Virtual Meeting

Present: Dani Amaral (SERAC), Megan Avery (DMHAS), Gerry Baird (Clifford Beers), Jeanette Baker (United Way), Precious Baker (CT Poison Control Ctr), Scott Barton (SPRC), Rebekah Behan (CHDI), Nicole Bengtson (Amplify), Amery Bernhardt (CT Ctr for School Safety), Romeo Blackmar (GHYMCA), Kate Bohannon (CT SDE), Kevin Borrup (CT's Children), Chelsea Bourn (Brian Dagle Foundation), Stephanie Bozak (DCF), Bill Brassard (NSSF), Alison Burge (CCSU), Brendan Burke (OCA), Kevin Burns (CT DOT), Kali Cavanaugh (JB-CSSD), Kathleen Chapman (CT Psychological Assn.), Heather Clinger (Wheeler), Alice DeMeo (DCF), Anastasiya Dominich-Kovalevsky (Torrington Area Health District), Andrea Duarte (DMHAS), Kelly Edwards (DMHAS), Amy Evison (CHR), Taylor Gainey (APW), Jose-Michael Gonzalez (CT Commission on Human Rights), Grace Grinell (NAMI Farmington Valley), Katherine Haley, Kathleen Hamilton, Brianna Herrera (NHD), Eric Hudson (CT Judicial Branch/CSSD), Russ Iger (Coventry PD), Keving Iglesias (The Hub/WCTC), Mark Irons (SERAC), Aaron Jackson (Join Rise Be), Neena Jacob (DPH), Chelsea Kapitancek (McCall Ctr for Behavioral Health), Caitlyn Koripsky (Catalyst CT/The Hub), Matthew Kowalski (Cromwell Youth Svcs), Amanda Kriz (Carelton Behavioral Health), Michelle Leibovitz (Rich Wright Productions), Elisha Logan (Homes for the Brave), Susan Logan (DPH), Gabriel Lomas (CT Ctr for School Safety), Cathy Ludlum (Second Thoughts CT), Steve MacHattie (Charter Oak Family), Mike Makowski (DPH), Abby Wood Maldonado (Western CT Coalition), Lesley Mara (CSCU), Stacey Mayer (CAGV), Noelle Michaud, Amanda Mihaly (UConn SSW/DMHAS), Wendy Mill, Briana Miller (ACCESS MH for Youth CT), Michael Monterosso (DPH), Allyson Nadeau (Amplify), Lucy Orellano (OCA), Tonya Patricia, Natasha Randolph (VA CT), Wanda Reyes-Dawes (CT State Manchester), Kara Sepulveda-Fonesca (Alliance for Prevention & Wellness), Marissa Sicley-Rogers (Hartford Healthcare), Richard Siddall (SMART Recovery), Cathy Sisco (Wheeler), Jennifer Sussman (UConn Health), Alyeska Tilly (United Way CT), Kasey Timberlake (CT National Guard), Nadine Tulloch (DPH), Laura Vandermeulen, Kristen Volz-Spessard (CT's Children), Sara Wakai (UConn Health), Emmalyn Weland, Marissa White (CHQIS), and LoriBeth Williams (DSS).

AGENDA ITEM/TOPIC	SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION	OUTCOME/ACTION /RESPONSIBLE
I. Welcome and Introductions	Andrea Duarte and Stephanie Bozak welcomed attendees.	
II. CTSAB Business	There was no formal board meeting as the September 11, 2025, meeting was a special meeting in recognition of Suicide Prevention Month. Steve Rogers moved to approve the August 14, 2025, minutes. Lesley Mara seconded. Minutes approved. Stephanie Bozak informed voting board members that a draft document to track all initiatives would be sent to them to review.	
II. Presentation	<i>Launching a New Year of Suicide Prevention</i> Presentations from the CTSAB Committees:	

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	Armed Forces Committee – CT Governor’s Challenge Attempt Survivors/Lived Experience Committee Data to Action Committee Education and Advocacy Committee Intervention/Postvention Response Committee Lethal Means Committee Zero Suicide Learning Community Communications - Awareness Campaign/Website/Outreach efforts To view the presentation, visit: https://www.ctclearinghouse.org/Customer-Content/www/files/PDFs/All_Slides-CTSAB_091125.pdf	
V. Close of Coalition Meeting	Meeting adjourned at 11:00am.	
2025 Meeting Schedule Meetings are the second Thursday of the month Coalition meeting: 9:00am—10:30am Board meeting: 10:30am-11:00am Meetings are currently scheduled virtually. Please refer to the monthly meeting announcement for meeting information.	<u>2025 Meeting Dates/Presentations</u> - 10/9: Nate Checketts, CEO & Co-Founder of Rhone Apparel Inc., <i>How a sportswear company is changing the narrative about "Mental Fitness" in the athletic world</i> - 11/13: State Plan 2030 Release (in-person meeting) - 12/11: Christina Cipriano, Ph.D., Ed.M., Yale Child Study Center Director, the Education Collaboratory at Yale, <i>Social Emotional Learning and Intersectionality</i> <u>2026 Meeting Dates</u> - 1/8, 2/12 (state holiday, no meeting), 3/12, 4/9, 5/14, 6/11, 7/9, 8/13, 9/10 (World Suicide Prevention Day), 10/8, 11/12, 12/10 Subcommittee meetings are listed in the monthly meeting announcement sent on the CTSAB listserv.	