

SUICIDE PREVENTION COORDINATING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 23, 2010/ 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM
The Capitol, Room 2103; Tallahassee, Florida

AGENDA ITEMS AND NOTES:

1. Welcome and Introductions: Colonel Bruce Grant, Director, Florida Office of Drug Control

- Adopt January Meeting Minutes

Wayne Dreggors made motion to adopt the January 2010 Council Meeting minutes; Dr. Gene Cash seconded the motion. Motion passed.

- New Gubernatorial Council Appointment: Judge Thomas Patterson “Patt” Maney

Brigadier General Thomas Patterson “Patt” Maney is now retired from the Army Reserve after 37 years of service. One of 65 Army Reserve brigadier generals nationwide, Maney commanded the 350th Civil Affairs Command and its 1,100 soldiers headquartered in Pensacola. In his position as commanding general, Maney was the principal civil affairs advisor to the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Southern Command. In August of 2005 while serving a tour of duty in Afghanistan, Maney was hit with an IED and spent months in a hospital undergoing therapy before returning to the bench as an administrative county judge for Okaloosa County.

2. Suicide Prevention Day at the Capital Update: Allyson Adolphson

March 24, 2010 is the 8th Annual Suicide Prevention Day at the Capitol, a day to promote education and awareness. Governor Crist signed a proclamation officially recognizing this day in Florida (*see attached*).

On March 22, Lamar Outdoor Advertising delivered a rolling billboard to the Capitol complex where it has been positioned along Monroe Street by the Historic Old Capitol building. Lamar donated this building at no cost and they have been extremely supportive of suicide prevention over the years. The billboard lists the statistics for suicide, homicide, and HIV-related deaths, demonstrating to the public the overwhelming prevalence of this public health problem. The largest words on the billboard however, emphasize that there is help and hope and direct people to our website, www.HelpPromoteHope.com. The billboard will remain in place until March 26.

Beginning at 8:00 AM on March 24, thirteen grassroots organizations and state agencies will hold display tables in the Capitol Rotunda on the Plaza Level and Second Floor. Some organizations will be hanging banners and memorial quilts in addition to their displays. Many of these organizations including the Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition have planned to use this day to advocate for legislation and educate their representatives on the issue. Please speak to Judy Broward or Terry Smith if you wish to help advocate.

At 11:00 AM, a press conference will begin in the 22nd Floor Observatory. Press conference speakers include Bruce Grant, Director, Office of Drug Control; George Sheldon, Secretary, Department of Children and Families; representing NAMI is Jim McDonough; former Secretary, Department of Corrections; and Judy Broward, Chair, Florida Suicide Prevention Coalition.

The Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention sent out a teaser press release one week earlier to attract interest in the event. Newspapers from two neighboring counties reprinted the release. The Tallahassee Democrat also ran a promotional editorial piece earlier in March. Additionally, the Florida Channel has agreed to record the press conference and it is slated to be broadcast later in the afternoon. We thank these media organizations for their support.

3. Legislation:

- SB 434 (Sobel) / HB 21061 (Heller) Suicide Prevention Education bill: Erin MacInnes

This amendment to the current statute adds suicide prevention education to school districts’ professional development plans as an option for school personnel to choose from when deciding how to fulfill their in-service training requirements. It does not mandate training, nor does it cost anything. It is a non-controversial amendment

to the current statute that simply puts suicide prevention education on the radar screen as an option for school personnel if they want it. This can be accomplished at no cost as there are numerous free, online trainings that teachers and administrators can utilize.

The bill was referred to three committees in both chambers. A legislative advocacy guide was created for those Council members wishing to visit their legislators. Keep in mind that it would also be great to stop by the office of members that have already voted yes to the bill, which thus far is everyone that has heard it in committee, and thank the sponsors, co-sponsors, and their aides.

When the bill passes, a section of the SOSP website, www.HelpPromoteHope.com, will be dedicated to the statute including details on where school districts can get online or face-to-face training.

For more information, please see the attached document, "Suicide Prevention Education Legislation."

- Additional bills

Substance abuse and mental health parity is not on the state agenda, but with the passage of federal healthcare reform it is not as important as in the past. Healthcare reform includes several positive changes for SAMH services. Reform will allow the expansion of Medicaid to 133% of the poverty level; will allow adults without children to qualify; prohibits lifetime limits on coverage; and prohibits insurance cancellation if you get sick.

For more information on this legislation, please contact Ellen Piekalkiewicz at ellen@samhcorp.org.

4. Florida Suicide Prevention Strategy Goals and Objective Revision: Erin MacInnes

The SOSP is currently in the process of updating the *Florida Suicide Prevention Strategy*. The new strategy format will include revised goals, objectives and action items to help the State prioritize its efforts and will allow communities to develop local action plans.

With session underway, this project has been temporarily put on hold but it will resume after Suicide Prevention Day is over. There is still a lot of work to be done but it is anticipated that a draft will be ready for the June 30th Council Meeting for members to review with a fine-toothed comb. A month will be provided for feedback so members have time to seek input from stakeholders and colleagues as well.

Feedback will be incorporated into the final draft which will be posted online by the end of August. The final version will be a living document that can be edited over time to account for new ideas, issues, etc.

5. Veteran Baker Act Study: Steve Roggenbaum, FMHI/USF (*please see attached handout*)

This study focuses on the civil commitment of Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) veterans. Of the attached handout, the first page provides background information for the study; the second page explains the study pre-primary aims; and the third page lays out a guide for the study.

This project has two major aims: data analysis of administrative data from the Department of Children and Families and the USF Baker Act Center, and analysis of penetration rates. This study hopes to uncover gaps in the continuum of care and identify missing services that could have prevented involuntary assessment. They hope to interview 15 – 20 veterans who have undergone an involuntary Baker Act examination. Veterans will be recruited from central Florida through flyers and facility referrals. All the veterans will be compensated for their time.

An advisory committee is in place to create the interview forms. The committee includes two survivors of spousal suicide, as well as the Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention. The Internal Review Board at USF has to approve the forms. The study will hopefully conclude by the end of June when the funds end.

Wayne Dreggors offered to help identify veterans who went through the Seminole County CSU which has received a BrAive grant.

6. Florida's Support for AAS Conference: Steve Roggenbaum, FMHI/USF

Florida is the host state for the 43rd Annual American Association of Suicidology Conference. Please consider these simple ways to support the conference.

AAS needs conference volunteers. Depending on how many hours you volunteer, your conference registration fee could be halved or waived. Additionally, the conference will feature a live auction and silent auction. AAS is looking for Florida themed donations, such as handmade jewelry from local artisans, signed books from Florida advocates and experts, university gift packages (t-shirts, hats, signed footballs), timeshares, etc.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Steve Roggenbaum at roggenba@fmhi.usf.edu.

7. Changes to Statewide Office of Suicide Prevention: Erin MacInnes

Erin MacInnes is getting married on October 9, 2010 and immediately following will be moving to Washington, D.C. October 1, 2010 will be her last day. A timeline is in place of things to be accomplished before her departure and there is plenty of time to conduct a national search to fill the position. It is planned for the new Director to begin shortly after Erin leaves. In May, a detailed call for applications will be released, and an informal advertisement will be made at the AAS conference.

It is also anticipated that Allyson Adolphson will leave the Office before the end of 2010, as she will be graduating with her Masters and moving out of state.

8. Council Member Updates

- Pam Mezzina and Caitlin Burns; The Caring Tree, Big Bend Hospice

After the last Council meeting when it was announced that the SOSP would not be able to hold an evening of remembrance candlelight vigil in conjunction with Suicide Prevention Day at the Capital, The Caring Tree decided to take on this event for the local Tallahassee community. It was held on Monday, March 22, 2010 at the Tallahassee Museum who graciously offered to donate the space. A Tallahassee Community College singing group, the Illuminaires, provided music for the event. Local media were in attendance, including WFSU and NPR.

The Caring Tree also provided bracelets engraved with the words, “Inspire Hope” and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number. These bracelets are used at Caring Tree events and during outreach presentations to local high school students.

- Jackie Rosen, Florida Initiative for Suicide Prevention

The 5th Annual Tri-County Triangle of Care Suicide Prevention Conference is being held at Nova Southeastern University on May 15, 2010. Dr. Gene Cash is the keynote speaker, and soon an updated schedule of events will be released. The conference can hold up to 500 participants. This event will help to educate physicians, primary doctors and pediatricians about children’s mental health, including teach problem-solving techniques, building self-esteem, and resiliency.

- Gail Cordial, Partners in Crisis

Partners in Crisis is seeking funding for community mental health substance abuse treatment providers, because without them criminal justice diversion programs are unable to operate. A press conference will be held on Thursday, March 25, at 11:00 am on the 3rd floor of the Capitol Building, hosted by the Florida Council for Behavioral Health. Additionally, Partners in Crisis is holding a quarterly meeting at the Challenger Learning Center on March 24, from 9:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Please feel free to attend both events.

- Steve Roggenbaum, FMHI/USF

The Department of Children and Families contracted with FMHI/USF to create a one-hour online suicide prevention Baker Act training module. The training was alpha- and beta-tested by Council members. In the past eight weeks since release, over 1800 users have taken the training, including law enforcement, mental health

professionals, advocates, and others. This free training is available at www.bakeracttraining.org. Users will need to register and receive a password before beginning any of the trainings offered.

- Dr. Gene Cash, Nova Southeastern University

Through June 30, 2009, Dr. Gene Cash served as President of the National Association of School Psychologists. Dr. Cash was the first president to issue a call to action to prevent suicide to the 26,000 member psychologists. To read the call to action, please visit www.nasponline.org.

9. Yearly Planning Calendar: Erin MacInnes

April 21-23, 2010: American Association of Suicidology Conference, Orlando, FL

April 24, 2010: AAS Healing After Suicide Conference, Orlando, FL

May 15, 2010: Tri-County Triangle of Care Suicide Prevention Conference at Nova Southeastern University

June 30, 2010 / 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Suicide Prevention Coordinating Council Meeting, the Capitol, Room 2103

Sept 27 – 28, 2010: Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, Orlando, FL

Sept 29 – Oct 1, 2010: Florida Prevention Conference, Orlando, FL

Information on ASIST and the Prevention Conference will be posted on www.HelpPromoteHope.com as soon as the Save-the-Date is ready and the conference website goes live.

MOTIONS:

- Wayne Dreggors made motion to adopt the January 2010 Council Meeting minutes; Dr. Gene Cash seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- Steve Roggenbaum made motion to adjourn the meeting; Wayne Dreggors seconded the motion. Motion passed.

NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, June 30, 2010 / 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM, the Capitol, Room 2103.

ATTENDEES: *Voting members are italicized.*

Allyson Adolphson

Caitlin Burns

Gail Cordial

Annette Delifus (rep. *Pam Denmark*)

Marie Dudek

Senta Goudy

Betty Hyle

Gwen Johnson (rep. *Lee Condon*)

Erin MacInnes

Marcia Mathes (rep. *Judi Evans*)

Bonnie McClelland (via conference)

Michele Mule

Ellen Piekalkiewicz

Pattee Rampt

Steve Roggenbaum

Jackie Rosen (via conference)

Lorie Simmons (via conference)

Gayla Sumner (rep. *Tracy Shelby*)

Betsey Westuba

Judy Broward

Dr. Gene Cash

Dr. Janetta Cureton

Wayne Dreggors

Kim Garrity

Bruce Grant

Cheryl Jackson

Dr. Marshall Knudson (via conference)

Judge Patt Maney

Michael Mathes

Pam Mezzina

Rachel Orleck-Lubka

Mike Pusateri

Bobby Roberts

Vernicka Rolle

Tracey Seabrook

Terry Smith

Lisa VanderWerf-Hourigan

Angie Zyzdryn