

**Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance (ISPA)**

Summary of Minutes – January 14, 2009
Approved March 12, 2009

Sangamon County Department of Public Health
2501 North Dirksen Parkway
Springfield, Illinois

Appointed Members in Attendance

Judy Ashby, LifeSavers Training Corporation
Becky Markwell, Illinois Center for Higher Education
Glenn Steinhausen, Illinois State Board of Education
Lora Thomas, NAMI Illinois – National Alliance on Mental Illness

By Phone:

Thomas Mannard, Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence
Sharneice Snyder, Jason Foundation – Illinois Program
Shannon Sullivan, Illinois Safe Schools Alliance
Stephanie Weber, Suicide Prevention Services
Carol Wozniewski, Mental Health America in Illinois

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance

Mary Mayes, Illinois Department on Aging
Jennifer Martin, Injury & Violence Prevention Program

By Phone:

Srgt. Jill Allen, Illinois State Police
Wendy Blank, Illinois Department of Corrections
Reshma Desai, Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
Jessica O'Leary, Office of the Illinois Attorney General
Patricia Reedy, Illinois Department of Human Services

IDPH Staff

Mark Flotow, Center for Health Statistics
Jennifer Martin, Injury & Violence Prevention Program

Stakeholders in Attendance

Angie, SIU intern at Anna Bixby Women's Center for Domestic Violence
Chris Boyster, Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence
Chuck Johnson, Blessing Hospital
Mike Rohling, Southern Illinois Regional Social Services
Shelly Wood, Anna Bixby Women's Center for Domestic Violence

By phone at Carol Wozniewski's office

Geri Alten, Winnebago County Health Department
Kristen Bean, Mental Health America in Illinois

Meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m.

Roll Call/Introductions/Welcome

Roll call was completed. Quorum is met. Introductions and a welcome were made by Co-Chair Carol Wozniewski. – Due to the inclement weather, members from Northern Illinois were allowed to join the meeting by conference call.

Review & Approval of November 18, 2008 Meeting Minutes

Copies of the minutes were distributed to the members prior to the meeting and copies were available during the meeting. Stephanie Weber motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Sgt. Jill Allen. No discuss – minutes were passed.

Update from Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) (Reporting: Jennifer Martin)

2009 Meeting Dates – the ISPA and workgroup meeting dates and locations for 2009 were posted on the Illinois Department of Public Health website. All members and stakeholders are encouraged to visit the IDPH–Calendar webpage to verify dates and locations. A list of dates and locations was also distributed.

Ex-Officio members – Voting Privileges – Prior to the meeting, IDPH Office of Health Promotion, Acting Deputy Director, Tom Schafer notified Co-Chair Carol Wozniwski that he heard from the Governor's Office and they have agreed that ex-officio members can have full voting privileges. The ex-officio members were informed of the discussion. Counting the ex-officio members, now there are 19 members on the ISPA. This also means that a larger number of members (11) need to be present at a meeting in order to achieve a quorum. All appointed and ex-officio members were asked to RSVP promptly to meeting notices, so IDPH staff can verify a quorum will be present to meet. Dr. Steinhausen asked this new development be reflected in the draft by-laws.

Vacancies on the ISPA – Currently, there are four vacancies on the ISPA and IDPH is working with nominees to complete their paperwork. The goal is to submit all the paperwork by the end of the month. A representative from the faith-based community has not been filled and the ISPA agreed it was important to continue to look for someone to serve that role, especially someone that could represent multiple denominations. Rev. Paul Rutgers was nominated previously and Ms. Wozniwski mentioned he had returned to work at the Council of Religious Leaders after a leave of absence, and may still be interested in the nomination. Other ideas proposed included identifying a hospital chaplain or a police chaplain – for they work with different denominations. Ms. Ashby had a couple of people in mind.

Injury Indicators Report – Previously, IDPH Injury and Violence Prevention (IVPP) staff reported they planned to participate in the State Injury Indicators Report by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. All the data was submitted (hospitalization discharge data and fatality). The report is a surveillance effort to gain a broader picture of the burden of injuries across the nation, include suicide. By participating, Illinois will be able to see trends over the years and compare Illinois to other states.

2006 Fatality Data Released - (Reporting: Mark Flotow) – the 2006 fatality data was released by IDPH and it's anticipated the 2007 data will be released in a couple of months. Please contact Mr. Flotow if you are interested in customized tabulations for your community.

Update from Mental Health America of Illinois (MHAI) Regarding Suicide Prevention Activities under the IDPH Contract (Reporting: Carol Wozniwski)

Coalition Development Communities – The communities continue to work on their projects. Ms. Wozniwski will receive updates from them next month, via progress reports. Ms. Ashby mentioned her coalition is planning a suicide prevention conference in Carbondale on April 3, as part of their coalition development stipend. Mr. Rohling mentioned one of the southern Illinois papers plans to publish an article on their coalition development efforts. An ISPA member asked if information on the conference should be posted on the IDPH website. Ms. Martin will inquire.

Public Awareness Campaign – MHAI was informed that IDPH approved their public awareness proposal. MHAI will work with the marketing firm, Market M, to implement the campaign. The goal is kick-off the campaign in May 2009 for mental health month. There will be a central kick-off site in Illinois with telecasts in multiple sites via the internet. Ms. Wozniwski will contact ISPA members and stakeholders regarding hosting a virtual site. She will provide updates as they role the campaign out. – Ms. Wozniwski also plans to talk with representatives from the Illinois Department of Human Services to see how MHAI can dove tail with their "Say It Out Loud" campaign – a campaign to promote mental health for everyone in Illinois.

Data Analysis and Report – MHAI's proposal to IDPH to subcontract with Pacific Institute for Research & Evaluation (PIRE) in Maryland was approved. PIRE will review various data sets that collect suicide-related data and provide recommendations for addressing barriers and gaps. MHAI would like to provide PIRE staff access to the ISPA data workgroup members. Ms. Martin added that she asked PIRE to include the state agency representative in any communications PIRE has with data managers in their respective state agency.

Trainings for mental health providers – MHAI will train mental health staff, including some staff from the Division of Mental Health to be Certified QPRT Instructors (Question, Persuade, Refer Suicide Risk Detection, Risk Assessment, and Risk Management). Also, each of the following two trainings will be offered in three locations throughout the state - the QPR Institute's Suicide Triage Training Course and the QPR Institute's QPRT Suicide Risk Detection, Risk Assessment and Risk Management Course.

Trainings for educators – The deadline for organizations to submit an application for a school-based mini-grant is this week. Currently, MHAI has received 13 proposals, with a good representation from across the state. MHAI plans to make funding decisions the following week and will send an e-mail update to the alliance/stakeholders.

If anyone is interested in helping Mental Health America of Illinois, please contact Ms. Wozniowski.

Overview from Illinois Department of Human Services Regarding Efforts to Enhance 1-800-SUICIDE within Illinois (*Reporting: Patricia Reedy*)

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline contacted the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health (DMH) because Illinois was identified as a "leaky" state, which means a large number of calls from Illinois residents to the national hotline are handled by crisis centers outside of Illinois. There are only 7 crisis centers in Illinois that are registered with the national hotline. Of the 7, only a couple of them handle any volume of calls, with Suicide Prevention Services handling the most. National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is tasked with expanding its network and they are asking the state mental health departments to help recruit additional crisis centers. DMH is identifying if any of their providers could take on some of the work. In addition, they are in the process of collecting a current list of hotlines to see if a partnership can be formed. Ms. Reedy asked the ISPA members if they are aware of a current list of hotlines. Some hotlines don't have a relationship with DMH, so DMH is interesting in outreaching to them to see if they are interested in joining the national hotline. Ms. Weber from Suicide Prevention Services (SPS) is on the board of the national hotline and discussed the benefits of being a part of the network. She explained that Illinois is a "leaky" state because it doesn't provide 24 hour services** and there isn't a statewide network of crisis lines. She also shared that most of the calls go to Missouri. The discussion continued with ISPA members/stakeholders sharing a list of crisis lines in the state --- Ms. Snyder mentioned her agency is looking into joining the national hotline and plans to contact them soon. Ms. Ashby recommended contacting the Farm Resource Center, who has a crisis line. Ms. Kenney mentioned Halstead in Chicago has a GLBT hotline. Someone mentioned that McLean County just started a hotline.

*** SPS received a grant to offer crisis service through the night hours, so starting February 1 they will be active during those hours.*

Workgroup Breakout Session

Workgroups were asked to approve the minutes from their December 2008 conference call, plan around the workgroup activities and identify agenda items for their February 2009 conference call.

Workgroup Report Out

Data Workgroup - (*Reporting: Geri Alten*) – Minutes from their December 16, 2009 conference call were approved. The workgroup continues to be interested in learning more about the Illinois Health Data Dissemination Project. Mr. Flotow gathered more information on the initiative and will continue to update the workgroup as he learns more.

Community Outreach Workgroup - (*Reporting: Judy Ashby*) - Minutes from their December 11, 2009 conference call were approved and an agenda for their January 2009 meeting was submitted. The workgroup was interested in collecting a current list of LANS (Local Area Network System) coordinators. Since one of the

goals of the LANS network is to wrap a child-at-risk with services, the workgroup decided it was important to outreach to the LANS coordinator to share suicide prevention information. The workgroup asked if a fact sheet on ISPA could be developed and accompanied with information. Ms. Martin shared that she inquired about a fact sheet. Typically fact sheets are not done for advisory boards, and there shouldn't be a need for a fact sheet, since the information would be sent out by the IDPH office. The workgroup was also interested in revisiting the idea of developing a coalition development toolkit specific to suicide prevention.

Education and Training Workgroup – (Reporting: Sherry Bryant) – Minutes from their December 15, 2009 conference call were approved. Ms. Weber compiled a list of 12 -15 topics on suicide and organized the information into a table. The workgroup will identify areas that they want to cover, and then ask each workgroup to provide addition recommendation, before submitting it to the alliance for review and approval.

Public Awareness Workgroup – (Reporting: Carol Wozniowski) – Minutes from their December 16, 2009 conference call were approved. The workgroup updated their workplan. Many of the activities will be accomplished through the MHA contract. The workplan includes such activities as developing talking points and messages that are consistent with the MHA public awareness campaign; partnering with the community outreach group; reviving state/regional/local resources for speaker's bureau; and developing awareness activities for May and September.

State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee – Minutes from their December 19, 2009 conference call were approved. The subcommittee also discussed if/how the changes in administration might affect suicide prevention efforts.

Ms. Martin was asked to send the draft minutes from each of the workgroups to all ISPA members, so they know what the other workgroups are working on.

Agency Announcements

- Ms. Ashby – LifeSavers Inc. Award Banquet is scheduled for March 14, 2009.
- Ms. Alten –the Violence Prevention Coalition of the Rockford Health Council was asked to look at crime and violence in their community. They are looking at developing a violence prevention blue print and identifying risk/protective factors.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Martin