

Illinois Department of Public Health
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance (ISPA)
Summary of Minutes – January 13, 2010
10:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Approved – April 20, 2010

Illinois Department of Public Health
IDPH Training Center facility – (Lake Level)
located at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702

Video Conferencing is available for those unable to travel to Springfield

Chicago – Illinois Department of Public Health, 122 S. Michigan, Conference Room 723

Marion – Illinois Department of Public Health, 2309 W. Main St., Public Health Conference Room

Appointed Members in Attendance

Judy Ashby, LifeSavers Training Corporation (*Marion*)

Amy Brausch, Eastern Illinois University (*Springfield*)

Paul Fleming, Survivor (*Marion*)

Carol Gall, Mental Health America in Illinois (*Springfield*)

Thomas Mannard, Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence (*Chicago*)

Glenn Steinhausen, Illinois State Board of Education (*Springfield*)

Lora Thomas, NAMI Illinois – National Alliance on Mental Illness (*Springfield*)

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance

Reshma Desai, Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (*Chicago*)

Jennifer Martin, Illinois Department of Public Health, Injury & Violence Prevention Program *

Mary Mayes, Illinois Department on Aging (*Springfield*)

Patricia Reedy, Illinois Department of Human Services (*Chicago*)

IDPH Staff

Jennifer Martin, Illinois Department of Public Health, Injury & Violence Prevention Program

Mark Flotow, Illinois Department of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics

Stakeholders in Attendance

Amy Ashland, Streamwood Behavioral Health Systems/Jason Foundation (*Chicago*)

Lori DeYoung, VA Hospital (*Springfield*)

Chuck Johnson, Blessing Hospital (*Springfield*)

Judy King, Greater Grand Mental Health Advisory Board (*Chicago*)

Stan Lewy, (*Chicago*)

Terra Riseman, Hines VA Hospital

Cynthia Watts, Marion VA Center (*Marion*)

Guest Speakers

Lidia S. Bernik, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Carole Ludwig, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline

Meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m.

Roll Call/Introductions/Welcome

Roll call was completed. Quorum is met. Introductions and a welcome were made by Co-Chair Carol Gall, who also commented that is appeared video conferencing was a good option. .

Review & Approval of November 13, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Copies of the minutes were distributed to the members prior to the meeting and copies were available during the meeting. Patricia Reedy motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Lora Thomas. All in favor, motion carried.

Update from Illinois Department of Public Health (Reporting: Jennifer Martin and Mark Flotow)

Nominations – Ms. Martin reported Amy Brausch's nomination to represent the field of research was approved.

Data – Mr. Flotow announced the 2007 fatality data had been released. There were more suicides in 2007 (1,102 suicides) than in 2006 (1007 suicides). The rate increased to 83/100,000 in 2007 from 7.8/100,000 in 2006, however, nationally there was not an increase. The increase in the age group 60+ was of statistical significance. Mr. Flotow offered to forward the data in a PDF file to share with the group. It is anticipated data for 2008 will be ready in a few months. Ms. Gall mentioned she'd like to invite Mr. Flotow to do a presentation when the 2008 data is released.

Update from Mental Health America of Illinois (MHAI) regarding suicide prevention activities under the IDPH contract (Reporting: Carol Gall)

Public Awareness Campaign – Ms. Gall will host a conference call in a couple of weeks for those interested in hosting in local launch event. The only technology needed is internet connection. The marketing firm (MarketM) has a media packet to assist local efforts. There will be a written solicitation of communities to host a launch site. Her goal is to gain more access across the state. Ms. Gall and MarketM are talking to a radio group that is very interested in helping launch the campaign through their stations. If they have a station in your area, then Ms. Gall will be contacting you.

Campus Suicide Prevention – MHAI is working with the Department and Eric Davidson with the Illinois Higher Education Center to offer a campus gatekeeper training in mid-April to mid-May. It will be offer in 4-5 sites. Both 2-year and 4-year campuses are invited. Ms. Ashby mentioned she's expanding the LifeSavers program to the college population will be conducting a held trainings at John A Logan College. They hope to have 100-150 trainers.

Presentation from the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (Reporting: Lidia Bernik and Carole Ludwig)

Lidia Bernik and Carole Ludwig from the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline joined the meeting by conference call. They provided an overview of the lifeline; however, their main goal was to brainstorm with the alliance on potential partners and opportunities in Illinois. Since many of us add the Lifeline number (1-800-273-TALK) to our materials, they see a need to expand the NSPL network in Illinois to there is an infrastructure in place in Illinois to handle calls from Illinois residents.

Overall in calls made in Illinois - 15% (about 5000) of calls are transferred out of state. If a call does not get answered in 30 seconds, then it's rerouted to a regional backup or national backup. Suicide Prevention Services (SPS) in Batavia handles the handles the highest percentage of (39%). SPS has agreed to try to capture as many of Illinois calls as possible.

Ms. Bernik and Ms Ludwig provided data on the number of calls they receive by county and region in Illinois. Ms. Bernik mentioned she'd be able to break down for each county how many calls are answered in the county and out of county/state. They also shared the percentage of calls that are routed to crisis centers in Illinois.

Three things influence an agency's capacity to join the NSPL - 1) what they choose as their coverage area, 2) operating hours - e.g. how many hours are they available to answer calls, and 3) size of the center - e.g. how many staff members are available. Ms. Bernik will send the parameters an agency would need to meet in order to participate in the lifeline. There is a cost to establish the lifeline. Agencies get a \$2500 stipend to help with cost and an additional \$1000 if willing to ask if the person is a veteran and transfer them to the national veteran's hotline.

Recruiting more centers to participate – Ms. Bernik asked if there were avenues/networks to help them recruit more centers. Ms. Reedy previously provided them with a list of hotlines she was aware of. Ms. Martin and Ms. Thomas shared there was a statewide conference for crisis centers, which Barry Greenwald, convenes. Alliance members and stakeholders were asked to send ideas to Ms. Ludwig at cludwig@mhainyc.org – 212-614-5768.

Questions for NSPL - One member asked if there was a certain area of Illinois the NSPL wanted to target. Ms. Bernik explained that over half of the calls originate in Chicago but they only have one center there – so Chicago is an area of needs. Someone asked if a campus crisis center could join the network. If they did then they'd have to agree to accept from anyone in their area. Dr. Steinhausen asked if they look across state lines. For instance, a center in St. Louis may serve southern Illinois. NSPL wants the centers to primarily be in the same state.

Review and Approval of 2009 Annual Report

The draft annual report was distributed to the alliance for review. This year's annual report has more data charts and graphs than in previous years. In addition to formatting changes and shading issues, the alliance also requested the "Accomplishments" section be restructured so it combines the accomplishments of the Department and the alliance, in addition the example of local efforts needs to be reworded. Ms. Martin and Ms. Gall will make these changes. Ms. Thomas also agreed to provide additional edits.

Evaluate and Update the Strategic Plan

Due to time limitations, this agenda item was tabled to the next meeting. Dr. Steinhausen recommended placing this item toward the beginning of the agenda next time and asks members to make an extra effort review the plan prior to the meeting.

Workgroup Report

Since the alliance meetings will be held via video conference in 2010, it will be difficult to arrange for the workgroups to meet during the full alliance meetings. Workgroups are encouraged to set a time to meet between the quarterly alliance meetings. They will be given an opportunity to provide a report during the full alliance meeting.

Agency Announcements

- Ms. Ashby shared that the LifeSaver's program will expand from high schools to college campuses. They also are planning a party/dinner theatre fundraiser for February 6.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Martin