

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance
Education and Training Workgroup (Addressing newly formed Goals 1 and 2)
Approved February 8, 2013

Friday, October 12, 2012

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Conference call)

Introductions

Mariann Blacconiere	Hines VA
Angie Brechlin (chair)	SwedishAmerica
Eric Davidson	Illinois Higher Education Center
Katie Mason	Mental Health America of Illinois
Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health

Announcements –

Ms. Martin explained the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention was released during National Suicide Prevention Week. The strategy serves as a revision to the plan and reflects the various changes in that have occurred in the suicide prevention field since 2001. For example, data (e.g., increase in rates and numbers, documented reports,) science (e.g., advances in science and evidence, growing awareness that suicide is preventable,) environment (e.g., two wars, economic uncertainty, natural disasters, greater public awareness and interest regarding suicide) and policy (e.g., advances by legislative and executive branches, Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention.) The strategy includes four strategic directions – 1) Healthy and Empowered Individuals, Families and Communities; 2) Clinical and Community Preventative services; 3) Treatment and Support Services and 4) Surveillance, Research and Evaluation. At the end of each section, there is a list of what entities can do to advance the goals and objectives for the respective strategic direction. Education and training related objectives are threaded throughout the four strategies. Such as, increasing knowledge of warning signs and connecting people to assistance and care; train community and clinical service providers; work with education and training programs to address prevention of suicide and related behaviors in their core education and training guidelines; work with credentialing and accreditation bodies to include suicide and related behaviors in their core education training in recertification or licensing program; train and provide technical assistance for guidelines developed to assist professional. The workgroup members commented that Illinois' strategic plan nicely complemented the objectives in the national strategy.

Ms. Brechlin announced she will staff a display at the Army-wide Health Fair.

Ms. Martin reported the Illinois Department of Human Services extended an invitation to distribute youth suicide prevention materials during their School Health Days, which will be conducted in five locations. Ms. Martin asked the workgroup members if they'd be available to help staff a display - 10/23 in Springfield, 10/24 in Mt. Vernon, 10/31 in Rockford, 11/1 in Arlington Heights and 11/16 in Lisle. Ms. Blacconiere, Ms. Brechlin and Ms. Mason showed interested in helping.

Ms. Martin mentioned she will staff a youth suicide prevention resource table at the Prevent Child Abuse Illinois conference in Springfield on October 18 and 19, 2012.

Ms. Martin spoke with staff from the Illinois Law Enforcement Standards and Training Board to learn more about their police suicide task force and to share information about the Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance.

The two agencies would like to identify opportunities to share resources and train law enforcement on suicide prevention.

Minutes from July 13, 2012 – Ms. Brechlin motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Ms. Blacconiere. All in favor, motion carried.

Discuss potential collaboration with the ISPA State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee – Ms. Brechlin reported she met with Ms. Reedy, chair of the State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee to identify how/if the two groups could collaborate on training professionals within the state system. A follow up conference call is schedule to identify action steps for the ideas discussed during their first call.

Develop a list of profession-specific trainings that currently exist – Ms. Martin compiled a list of profession-specific trainings and publications. The list was distributed to the alliance and stakeholders to review. Several members added trainings they were aware of. Ms. Martin asked the Mental Health America of Illinois (MHA) if the list could be added to the *It Only Takes One* website. MHA may need to wait until there are multiple updates then add them at the same time.

Review a list of training opportunities in Illinois and identify opportunities to collaborate -

Ms. Martin distributed a list of training opportunities to the alliance and stakeholders, explaining the workgroup was interested in learning about conferences which we could collaborate and/or submit suicide prevention abstracts. Several members added information to the list. This will be a working list which will be updated as we learn of new events. Ms. Martin believes we'll learn of more training opportunities after we survey the stakeholders about what suicide prevention activities they are implementing.

Old Business

Webinar – Ms. Martin reported we should be able to host webinars but the office is waiting to receive a detail breakout of the costs before purchasing the licensure. The workgroup members also discussed that some of the partner agencies have webinar capability and may be interested in sponsoring a webinar in the meantime.

Idea of a statewide conference – in the past, Ms. Brechlin shared her interest in hosting another statewide conference. Ms. Martin mentioned the idea to Ms. Gall, ISPA co-chair, who also liked the idea. Ms. Gall recently attended a couple of one-day conferences, which were well attended, and believes it was feasible for ISPA to have a similar experience. Ms. Martin presented the idea to her supervisor, who stated the idea was open for discussion but it would be tied to the new youth suicide prevention grant and the workgroup would need to determine if a conference is needed (or if the training needs could be met through other avenues.) The workgroup agreed if they host a conference, then it should be limited to a one-day event. They also discussed the possibility of hosting regional conferences versus a statewide conference in order to generate a larger response of participation. The workgroup began discussing the pros (e.g., more convenient than a multi-day event) and cons (e.g., economic times, travel limitations) of a conference. Members agreed it should be done at a low cost (e.g., free facility, free speakers, lunch on your own) and there should be no/minimal registration fee with continuing education units available. Ms. Blacconiere will ask if her agency's auditorium in Mayfield would be available; she also mention she'd be willing to speak. The workgroup briefly discussed potential topic area – e.g., consumer that has recovered survivor.

Ms. Martin mentioned it was critical to have a strong planning committee in order to have a successful conference. Before furthering proceeding with this idea, Ms. Martin confirmed the workgroup members are

able to be an active participant; which they are. The workgroup will present the idea to the full alliance and ask if it's okay to pursue this idea. If so, then a request for others to join the workgroup will be made.

Full alliance meeting – Ms. Brechlin will not be able to attend the full alliance meeting; therefore, Ms. Blacconiere will provide the workgroup update in her absence.

Set agenda items for next meeting

- I. Introductions
- II. Announcements
- III. Approval of minutes
- IV. Update on collaboration with the ISPA State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee
- V. Continue to identify opportunities to train professionals
- VI. Discuss the potential of hosting a one-day conference
- VII. Set agenda items for next meeting

Submitted by Jennifer Martin