

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance  
Community Awareness Workgroup  
(Addressing newly formed Goals 3 and 4)  
*Approved February 14, 2013*

Thursday, December 13, 2012  
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Conference call)

**Introductions**

Mariann Blacconiere U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital  
Chuck Johnson Blessing Hospital  
Jennifer Martin Illinois Department of Public Health

**Minutes from October 11, 2012** – Mr. Johnson motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Ms. Blacconiere. All in favor, motion carried.

**Announcements**

None

**Update on the “It Only Takes One” campaign -**

Ms. Gall with the Mental Health America of Illinois was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Martin mentioned she is talking with Ms. Gall about expanding the *It Only Takes One* (IOTO) website to include additional web pages on youth suicide prevention. This will be an activity under the federal grant the Department received. They’ll be required to evaluate how the website is being used. Mr. Johnson asked if IOTO can be promoted along with the national lifeline number in public service announcements; which media outlets are required to donate space though he didn’t think many of the donate space was used to promote suicide prevention awareness. Ms. Blacconiere mentioned the VA has used this approach. Ms. Martin will share the idea with Ms. Gall.

Ms. Johnson also asked if the IOTO and/or national lifeline websites could be a link on other state agencies web pages. Ms. Martin mentioned some agencies have policies (e.g., they’ll only post “.gov” website) but it’s an idea we can present to the ISPA State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee to gain their insight on approaching their respective state agencies with this idea.

**Overview of issue papers –**

*Access to means issue paper* – the members reviewed sections that could be revised so as to shorten the paper from 9 pages to 6 pages. It was recommended to convert the data charts to color to make it easier to read they content. Members referred to the newly released revised national strategy for suicide prevention to identify information to include in the issue paper. Ms. Martin will outreach to workgroup members Ms. Daley to see if she’s had an opportunity to make edits to the sections pertaining to firearms.

*Juvenile Justice issue paper* – Ms. Martin forwarded the draft issue paper on juvenile justice which was developed several years ago. It will need to be updated. She asked Ms. Gall if she could recommend someone to review it. Mr. Johnson will ask the child psychologist in his hospital to review the document and provide recommendations and resources we can refer to as we develop the paper.

*Military issue paper* – Ms. Martin is utilizing information Ms. Blacconiere provided and referring to national web sites and the national strategy. She will send a draft to the workgroup in the next week.

*First responders* – Ms. Martin mentioned she'll start working on this issue paper after the draft issue paper on military is complete.

Other ideas – Ms. Martin asked if there were other youth-specific topics we could develop issue papers on; to complement the youth suicide grant. Ms. Johnson recommended addressing suicide and bullying.

#### **Discuss the development of a suicide prevention webpage**

The draft webpage was presented to the full alliance in November. Minor changes were made to the content. Ms. Martin worked with staff from the Center for Health Statistics to verify and correct data that was referenced in the content. Ms. Martin submitted the revised draft to her supervisor, whom made changes and was submitted for further review. The Department will ask if a "suicide prevention" header could be developed rather than utilizing the "injury prevention" header.

#### **Next Meeting** - Thursday, February 14, 2013 – 2-3p.m.

- Set agenda
  - Introductions
  - Approve minutes from December 13, 2012 meeting
  - Announcements
  - Update on the "It Only Takes One" campaign
  - Discuss ideas for promoting the national lifeline
  - Update on issue papers
  - Discuss the development of a suicide prevention webpage

*Summary submitted by Jennifer Martin*