

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance (ISPA)
Summary of Minutes May 11, 2012
10:00 a.m. – 2:30:p.m.
Approved August 27, 2012

Illinois Department of Public Health/Training Center
located at the Illinois Department of Natural Resources
One Natural Resources Way (Lake Level)
Springfield
*with video conferencing available at
Illinois Department of Public Health, 122 South Michigan Avenue, 7th Floor,
Conference Room 711, Chicago*

Appointed Members in Attendance

Carol Gall, Mental Health America in Illinois
Colleen Daley, Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence
Paul Fleming, Survivor (*phone*)
Steve Moore, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention – Illinois Chapter (*Chicago*)
Glenn Steinhausen, Illinois State Board of Education
Lora Thomas, NAMI Illinois – National Alliance on Mental Illness

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance

Wendy Blank, Illinois Department of Corrections (*phone*)
Mary Ratliff, Illinois Violence Prevention Authority

Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) Staff

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

Stakeholders in Attendance

Mariann Blacconiere, Hines VA (*Chicago*)
Jonathan Boucher, Hope for the Day (*Chicago*)
Katie Edwards, Danville VA
Josh Gibson, Hope for the Day (*Chicago*)
Chuck Johnson, Blessing Hospital
Ariel Mindel, Mental Health America in Illinois
Peter Mulhall, University of Illinois, Center for Prevention, Research and Development
Master Sergeant Ed Petrik, Illinois State Police (*phone*)
Felicity Sweet, Hope for the Day (*Chicago*)

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

Introductions/Welcome

Introductions and a welcome were made by Co-Chair Ms. Gall. Quorum is met.

Review & Approval of February 15, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Copies of the minutes were distributed to the members prior to the meeting and copies were available during the meeting. Colleen Daley motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Carol Gall. All in favor, motion carried.

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

New acting department director – La Mar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH is acting director until Senate confirmation. Some members may remember that he was a keynote speaker at the 2002 Illinois Injury Prevention Conference. At that point, he worked for at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as part of the epidemic intelligence service. Most recently he served as the director of Ulster County Department of Public Health in New York, while also serving as the commissioner of mental health for the county. Dr. Hasbrouck is an expert in an array of public health issues, including youth violence which he is a national expert.

Terms – During the last alliance meeting, members asked Ms. Martin to identify an appropriate break out of terms for the appointed members based on the bylaws. (*“Terms shall be from July 1 to June 30 for each year of appointment.” and “Of the members initially appointed, 3 members shall be appointed for a term of one year, 3 members shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and the remaining members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.”*) Ms. Martin outreach to the members to see if they preferred a specific term then during today’s meeting, presented an outline of a proposed list of terms of appointments. Those who planned to retire/resign this year were listed under the one-year term from 7/1/11-6/30-12. The remaining appointed members were divided among the two-year term from 7/1/11-6/30/13 and the three-year term from 7/1/11-6/30/14. Currently, there are eleven vacancies/new positions. When these positions are filled, then those appointees will serve a three-year term based on the date of their appointment (e.g., 2012-2015.)

Strategic plan – The updated strategic plan is being reviewed by the Department.

Data report – the draft report prepared by the PIRE was submitted to the Department for graphic design. Ms. Martin continues to follow up on the status of the report.

Executive Summary – During the last meeting, the alliance recommended developing a one-page executive summary for the annual report. Ms. Martin presented the idea to her supervisor who verified it was okay for the alliance to develop.

Youth suicide prevention grant proposal – In FY11, the Department applied for the State-Sponsored Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA,) with guidance from the Illinois Department of Human Services. Illinois was not awarded the grant during that funding cycle; however, the Department received notification from SAMHSA that they do not anticipate issuing a new RFA this fiscal year (FY 2012) but instead will provide funding to select exemplary applicants from last year. The SAMHSA Review Office would like to consider Illinois’ application. In order to complete the review process for your grant proposal, they requested additional information about *Confidentiality and SAMHSA*

Participant Protection/Human Subjects. Ms. Martin worked with Mr. Mulhall to review and submit this information. It is unknown when the FY12 awards will be announced.

Community Transformation Grant – Ms. Martin announced the Department received a Community Transformation Grant from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Applications should demonstrate a strong collaboration to implement strategists at multiple levels. Applicants must implement at least one Smoke-free strategy and one Healthy Eating and Active Living strategy; however, there are other strategies which a community also can address, which include several injury prevention approaches - e.g., incorporating social emotional learning within coordinated school health, Safe Routes to School, Complete Streets, Joint Use Agreements, etc. - This is an opportunity to collaborate with your communities to include these evidence-based injury prevention strategies within their CTG grant applications.

2009 fatality data - Mr. Flotow from the IDPH Center for Health Statistics verified the 2009 fatality data had not been released. Mr. Flotow will provide an overview to the alliance once the 2009 data is released.

Discussion of ISPA leadership positions and member vacancies (*Reporting: Carol Gall and Glenn Steinhausen*)

Co-chair position – Dr. Steinhausen will retire at the end of the month and Ms. Gall announced she has not received any self-nominations for the co-chair position. Ms. Gall and Dr. Steinhausen explained the role of the co-chair and mentioned the nominee needs to be a state-agency appointed member. Dr. Blank showed interest and requested a meeting with the co-chairs and Ms. Martin to discuss the idea further.

Workgroup chair vacancies – the chair positions for the ISPA Data Workgroup and ISPA Education and Training Workgroup have been vacant. Ms. Martin reported she spoke to Ms. Brechlin from SwedishAmerica about serving as the chair of the ISPA Education and Training Workgroup and she accepted. Ms. Brechlin is an active stakeholder on the workgroup and has been involved with the alliance since its inception. With regard to the chair position for the ISPA Data Workgroup, Ms. Martin was asked to inquire with Mr. Mulhall if he'd be interested in the position but had not outreach to him yet. He was at today's meeting and said he'd consider the position but would like to meet with Ms. Martin and the co-chairs to discuss further.

ISPA appointed-member vacancies – the co-chairs prepared a letter to the Director, recommending the following individuals/agencies be appointed to the alliance – **Dr. Peter Mulhall** from the University of Illinois Center for Prevention, Development and Research (representing a researcher); **Jeff Dill** from Palatine Rural Fire Protection District and Founder of both the Firefighter Behavioral Health Alliance and Counseling Services for Fire Fighters (representing the fire service); **Mariann Blacconiere** from Hines VA (representing veterans,) **Sam Giordano**, Harper College (representing emergency medical services;) and **Nicole Pekovitch** from Human Resource Center (representing mental health consumer specialist.) Ms. Gall mentioned the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance considered the recommendation to represent the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgender community; however, they declined the recommendation. The **Center on Halsted** will be added to the list of agencies the alliance will request that the Department outreach to invite them to identify a representative on the

alliance; in addition to the **Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice, Illinois Healthcare and Family Services** and **Illinois Hospital Association**.

Annual Reports

A revised draft of the 2011 annual report was presented for review and discussion.

Recommendations from the last meeting were added. Members commented that the layout of the accomplishments was easier to read in comparison to the previous draft. Some accomplishments were missing so Ms. Martin will go back and add them. Ms. Martin thanked the data workgroup for providing direction during their recent workgroup meeting as she developed the data charts. The hospital discharge data was added and a couple of charts need to be revised. The fatality data and the Youth Risk Behavior Survey tables need to be updated with current data. The Data Workgroup will review comments from today's meeting during their workgroup meeting on Monday. Ms. Martin also thanked the co-chairs and workgroup chairs for meeting a couple of times prior to this meeting to revise the "next steps" section. Ms. Gall and Ms. Thomas volunteered to develop an executive summary for the annual report.

Workgroup Updates

State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee – Ms. Martin submitted the draft survey, to assess the various suicide prevention projects in the state, to her supervisor for review.

Education and Training Workgroup – as they consider what their next activities would be, the members decide to research which professions have a suicide prevention requirement within their regulations and accreditations. These may be key professions to outreach to first. It also was decided to identify existing trainings that are tailored to specific professionals. Ms. Martin is gathering insight from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center regarding their provider initiative. If any of the agencies involved with the alliance has an interest in training and/or educating their providers, then please contact the workgroup to discuss possible collaborations.

Community Awareness Workgroup – a draft issue paper on "Suicide and Access to Means" was distributed during the alliance meeting. The workgroup reviewed a couple versions of the document prior to today's meeting but the paper is still in development. The alliance provided their input. The members decided the paper could be longer than four-pages due to the broad topic area. They agreed the data should be presented in a graph format rather than narrative. Ms. Daley volunteered to narrow down the sections pertaining to firearms. Once the issue paper is approved, Ms. Gall will post all the issue papers on the Mental Health America in Illinois website and the *It Only Takes One* website.

Data Workgroup – the workgroup was spent the previous meetings reviewing data for the annual report and will review the data from the issue paper at an upcoming meeting.

Discuss potential activities for Suicide Prevention Week

National Suicide Prevention Week is September 9 – 15, 2012, with World Suicide Prevention Day occurring on September 10, 2012. The alliance discussed possible activities to honor the day/week.

- Develop a resource list
- Encourage communities to write letters to the editor

- Post community events on the *It Only Takes One* website so the events are listed in a central location
- Use the alliance partnerships to collaborate
- Host candle light vigils across the state (at the same day and time)
- Conduct focus groups that day
- Collaborate with the faith-based community (the Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence has connections)
- Utilize National Suicide Prevention Week the release the “Suicide and Access to Means” issue paper

The alliance assigned this task to the ISPA Community Awareness workgroup to discuss further. It was recommended to invite agencies to join the workgroup to discuss further. Ms. Blacconiere, Ms. Daley and Ms. Ratliff agreed to join the workgroup; and it was recommended to invite our members from southern Illinois to ensure our efforts reach statewide.

Set meeting dates and locations for the next fiscal year

The members discussed the meeting dates for FY13. It was decided to have quarterly meetings throughout the state and offer video conference for those unable to attend in-person. These are the dates/locations that were proposed:

- August (27 or 29) in Chicago with video conferencing available in Springfield and Marion
- November (27, 28 or 29) in Springfield with video conferencing available in Chicago and Marion
- February (27 or 28) in Chicago with video conferencing available in Springfield and Marion
- May 17 in Carbondale with video conferencing available in Springfield and Chicago

Ms. Martin will contact the IDPH offices in these cities to identify which dates the facilities are available. If one of the member agencies has the capacity to offer video conferencing in Chicago, Springfield and a southern Illinois community and is interested in hosting the ISPA meeting, then they are asked to contact Ms. Martin.

Dr. Steinhausen’s retirement

Ms. Gall and Ms. Martin presented a clock to Dr. Steinhausen in recognition for the many years he provided leadership to the suicide prevention initiative in Illinois. His dedication to the cause is greatly appreciated.

Agency Announcements

- Ms. Edwards announced this will be her last alliance meeting she’ll attend. She accepted a position with the homeless program within the veteran affairs. Her replacement will most likely attend the alliance meetings
- Dr. Steinhausen will retire at the end of the month. A replacement has not been named.
- Ms. Ratliff announced the Request for Proposals for their Illinois Health Care grant has been released. The goal is to improve the health care response to domestic violence, elder abuse, and sexual violence.
- Ms. Blacconiere will train the Community Living Centers on June 1, 2012 to identify people being discharged from long-term care facilities who may be at-risk of suicide (they are three times at risk.) She’d also like to train long-term care centers.

- Ms. Gall announced Ms. Mindel's last day will be next week. A replacement has been hired - Katie Mason. Ms. Mason has been a counselor at Roosevelt University and will be available to assist the alliance during Ms. Gall's maternity leave.
- Ms. Gall reported the Illinois Children's Mental Health Partnership will host their second school based conference in Lisle, IL. She will conduct a suicide prevention presentation; in addition to conduct another presentation on assessment. Ms. Gall can share information from other agencies, if they'd like to forward it to her.
- Ms. Gall mentioned Mental Health America in Illinois (MHAi) may outreach to alliance members to collaborate on the *It Only Takes One* campaign. MHAi created a partnership with Tregg Duerson, son of former Chicago Bears football player, Dave Duerson, who died of suicide to do some public awareness activities regarding the correlation between traumatic brain injury and suicide, as part of the *It Only Takes One* (IOTO) campaign. - MHAi has raised funds to do the public service announcement; perhaps it will be done by September for Suicide Prevention Week/Month.
- Ms. Gall invited agencies to send ideas on items to add to the IOTO website.
- Ms. Gall announced they are selling Friendship Monkeys to benefit the IOTO campaign. MHAi received a donation of Ty monkeys and they are utilizing them to remind people that all it takes is one smile, one call, one hug, one supportive interaction to potentially save a person's life.
- Mr. Gibson provided an overview of his program, Hope for the Day, since this was his first meeting. They utilize music and the arts to focus on suicide prevention. They developed a public service announcement last month and recently received 501(c)3 status. The agency's website can be found at www.hftd.org.
- Dr. Mulhall reported his office oversees the Illinois Youth Survey, which included questions about suicide. School receives a data feedback report.
- Dr. Mulhall mentioned he is a member of the Illinois Department of Human Services State Epidemiology Outcome Workgroup whose goal is to build capacity and put information into one query system.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jennifer Martin