

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance (ISPA)  
State Agency Review and Support Subcommittee  
Summary of Meeting

*Approved April 8, 2013*

February 1, 2013  
3 p.m. – 4 p.m. (Conference Call)

**Introductions**

Angie Brechlin	SwedishAmerica
Jessica Gerdes	Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
Mary Mayes	Illinois Department on Aging
Mary Ratliff	Illinois Violence Prevention Authority
Patricia Reedy (Chair)	Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)/Division of Mental Health (DMH)
Lora Thomas	NAMI-Illinois

**Approval of January 14, 2013 minutes**

Ms. Mayes motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Ms. Reedy. All in favor, motion carried.

**Announcements –**

- Ms. Reedy reported Dr. Jones, Director of DMH is moving to a new position (chief mental health liaison with Governor's office) and the director of IDHS Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse will serve as the acting director to both divisions.
- Ms. Reedy also reported the IDHS Division of Community Health and Prevention and the IDHS Division of Human Capital Development (public sector benefits) merged to form the IDHS Division of Family and Community Services
- Ms. Martin mentioned ISPA co-chair Ms. Gall plans to outreach to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice to follow up on a letter the IDPH sent to them requesting they nominate a representative to the alliance. Ms. Reedy mentioned DMH staff is part of juvenile forensics and could outreach to them as well if needed.

**Update on state agency projects**

- Ms. Martin provided update on the youth suicide prevention grant (e.g., collaborating with school personnel to launch school-based suicide prevention training.) She asked the group to identify people/programs who should be invited to the stakeholder consensus meeting.

**Discuss collaboration with ISPA Education and Training Workgroup**

- *Update on discussion and research with regards to training providers and adding suicide prevention coursework in higher education* - Ms. Reedy provided brief overview of the idea to

strengthen professional competencies. Ms. Brechlin added that Education and Training Workgroup discussed this idea on their workgroup call and gained support for the idea. Ms. Reedy asked if this project should fall under the State Agency Subcommittee (or the Education and Training Workgroup or a separate workgroup. Members on today's call thought it should be a committee under both workgroup, since there are two components of the project (e.g., state agency subcommittee would oversee activities regarding competency and the education and training workgroup would work on training schools.) Ms. Reedy and Ms. Brechlin have gathered a wealth of information. Ms. Martin mentioned though this project may feel overwhelming, Ms. Reedy and Ms. Brechlin have gained support from national experts (Suicide Prevention Research Center and expert from Boston University) to guide the process and identify next steps.

### **Old business**

- a) *Feedback regarding the online survey, which was piloted by the members, to inventory of suicide prevention activities* – edits to the survey are being made. The survey will be sent to the alliance members prior to the full alliance meeting, with the intent of sharing the initial results during the meeting.
- b) *Discuss draft informational letter to share with agency directors* - Ms. Mayes revised the letter. Ms. Martin will forward the draft to the subcommittee member for further input. The letter will be customized for each agency. The workgroup recommends the letter come from the director of IDPH. Ms. Reedy recommended changing “staff person” to “the IDoA has graciously offered Ms. Maye’s time to....”

### **New Business** –

- a) *Discuss avenues to request the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline logo be added to state agency websites* – due to time restraints, this topic was tabled for discussion.

### **Set agenda items for next meeting** – *all members agreed to continue to utilize the following standard agenda*

- I. Introductions
- II. Approval of minutes
- III. Announcements
- IV. Update on state agency projects
- V. Old business
  - a. Update on the inventory of suicide prevention activities
  - b. Update on collaboration with ISPA Education and Training Workgroup
  - c. Update on the idea to develop a packet for agency directors
- VI. New business
  - a. Discuss adding the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline logo to agency websites
- VII. Divide tasks
- VIII. Determine expectations for next meeting
- IX. Set agenda items for next meeting

*Submitted by Jennifer Martin*