

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance
Education and Training Workgroup
Approved August 8, 2014

Friday, June 13, 2014
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Conference call)

Introductions

Libby Bair	Illinois Department of Public Health
Eric Davidson	Eastern Illinois University
Katie Jones (Interim Chair)	Molina Healthcare of Illinois
Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health

Minutes from April 11, 2014

Ms. Jones motioned for the approval of the minutes with a second from Mr. Davidson, all in favor, motion carried.

Announcements

Update on trainings conducted by workgroup members

Mr. Davidson and his staff will be part of grief assessment and screening intervention trainings to be held in Chicago in two weeks.

As part of her duties as Director of Behavioral Healthcare at Molina Healthcare of Illinois, Ms. Jones reported she recommends trainings for social workers going into Illinois communities for their work. They have been recently working with the QPR Institute (Question, Persuade, Refer) and have determined it to be a good option for those working in communities. Ms. Jones has been recertified as a QPR trainer.

Ms. Jones also reported there are two ASIST trainers from Whiteside County that will be holding trainings in both Springfield and Oakbrook.

Ms. Martin reported the 2014 statewide suicide prevention conference was the main training opportunity the Department provided since the last meeting. Ms. Martin also presented a display at the EverThrive Illinois conference and submitted an abstract to the Illinois Association of School Administrators in the fall. The department continues to look for ways to reach out to schools to inform them of the existing online trainings.

Ms. Martin briefed Mr. Davidson on a terminology change she heard of at the recent Garret Lee Smith grantee meeting in Washington D.C.: “upstander” is being used rather than “bystander”, as upstander doesn’t imply standing on the sidelines.

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

In various school trainings coming up, Ms. Jones noted she would like to help to continue spreading the word about the online trainings for all levels of education. Ms. Jones requested some sort of promotional alert from Ms. Martin to be passed on.

Additionally, Ms. Jones provided an overview of the Stark County Initiative to those who were unfamiliar.

Ms. Jones notified the group there are upcoming recovery conferences for regions 3, 4, and 5. The region 5 conference will be held August 7th in Belleville, and regions 3 and 4 will be combined and held September 16th in Washington. The Washington conference is named HopeStrong, fashioned off the Illinois Strong theme for tornado relief. Ms. Jones added both of these conferences would benefit from reminders about the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, etc. She also added the conferences are usually consumer led. Ms. Martin noted that as the Department is prevention focused, sometimes conference participants are seeking information on intervention and crisis response; so it may be an opportunity to defer to our mental health partners.

Ms. Jones also added Bridgeway is currently giving Mental Health First Aid training, which was inspired by Sandy Hook tragedy. The access to the trainings was brought by a federal grant, and she believes Bridgeway is soliciting opportunities because they have a quota to fill. Ms. Martin indicated her willingness to share information related to this.

Reports from ad hoc committees

Summary of 2014 statewide conference evaluations

Ms. Bair gave the following updates:

- 104 people responded out of 177 attendees; near 60% response rate
- The FY14 ad-hoc committee held a debriefing meeting and reviewed the evaluations at 45% in order to have recommendations to share with the alliance at the May meeting
- 42% of the audience was mental health professionals, 27% health professionals, and 18% educators
- The attendees shared specific action items regarding how they plan to take what they learned at the conference and use it in their own suicide prevention efforts.
- The FY15 committee will consider the possibility of offering 1.5 hour breakout sessions and breaks longer than 15 minutes (as a result of some evaluation comments)
- During the FY14 debriefing, the committee briefly discussed potential locations for FY15 (Chicago vs. central IL)
- Based on feedback, The FY15 committee will plan to explicitly include warning signs, etc. in the program booklet, as well as attempt to reach out to a keynote speaker that can cover these themes. Additionally, the committee will plan to ensure there are identified sessions that touch on core skills and "how-to" ideas (in addition to program overviews).
- The committee will plan to include a glossary/key terms section in the program booklet so make everyone aware of standard vocabulary

Update on planning for the 2015 statewide conference

Ms. Bair reported she sent out a call for committee members to all FY14 members, and Ms. Martin forwarded an outreach letter to her listserv. There are currently 11 volunteers for the FY15 committee. The committee will be meeting before the end of the summer months; their first tasks include drafting a proposal for the conference and determining a location/venue.

Ms. Jones inquired as to whether the committee and alliance as a whole is lacking representation from specific areas of the state. Ms. Jones will work to solicit volunteers in the Southern and Metro East Illinois areas in these areas when she is there and requested a flyer to distribute that gives an overview of what the ISPA does.

Update on planning for a webinar to train substance abuse prevention specialists

Ms. Martin will continue to outreach to staff, who oversee the substance abuse prevention specialists, about this webinar idea. This is a webinar both programs is interested in; therefore, It will be beneficial to continue to try to collaborate with staff from this program and their training staff. .

Update on planning for a webinar to train healthcare professionals (e.g., emergency departments, hospitals with pediatrics, emergency service system coordinators and school nurses)

No new updates; this webinar will be put on hold until the grant activities for this year are completed.

Update on follow-up to meeting for higher education campuses to enhance their capacity to implement suicide prevention strategies

Mr. Davidson reported he met with Ms. Martin and Ms. Bair to debrief after the breakout session at the conference. The session was a follow-up to the higher education meeting in July 2013. During his of session he asked school representatives what their prevention activities were on their campuses. They reported assessment, screening, behavioral intervention, mandated assessment sessions – not really primary prevention. Many use the word prevention, but aren't really on the same page. Counseling centers are often given the responsibility of suicide prevention, but often haven't gotten training for primary prevention.

Mr. Davidson noted the participants want to see some benchmarking; schools want to know what others are doing, especially community colleges. They seem to want to be in agreement and approach things the same way. Mr. Davidson shared a sample survey for variables in alcohol with Ms. Martin and Ms. Bair. He believes it might be possible to modify those surveys to focus more on suicide prevention and intervention.

Mr. Davidson recommended not sending out any surveys until October, as many counseling centers are closed down over the summer.

Ms. Martin added she saw a representative from the Art Institute of Chicago during her time at the grantee meeting. He mentioned the Jed Foundation is now collaborating with the Clinton Foundation. Schools can now get a "seal of certification," basically representing a campus has made a commitment to promote mental wellness. Ms. Martin believes this is something to promote to schools that may be interested. This is an expansion of the model presented to the schools last summer at the July meeting.

Review recommendations from the final report from the Youth Suicide Prevention Consensus Building Meeting, which were assigned to this workgroup

Ms. Martin met with school personnel earlier in the morning looking for a better understanding to make sure the recommendations are interpreted correctly; the conversation has been started.

Set FY15 meeting dates

Those on the call agreed to keep the standing date, 2nd Friday of the month at 2 pm, through FY15.

Minutes submitted by Libby Bair, reviewed by Jennifer Martin