

MEETING SCHEDULE, 2007

The regular meetings of this subcommittee are on the second Tuesday of each month from 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. at a primary site with videoconferencing available. We encourage long-distance participation through videoconferencing across the state.

For More Information or To Participate:

The Suicide Prevention Subcommittee welcomes information and participation from all concerned Kansans. If you are interested or would just like more information, please contact our Chairperson:

Bill Art, LCSW
Johnson County Mental Health Center
1125 W Spruce
Olathe, KS 66061
Bill.Art@jocogov.org

Meeting minutes can be found at
<http://www.srskansas.org/hcp/MHSIP/MHSIPGovernorsMHCouncil.htm>

Art from our teen suicide prevention poster contest can be found at
www.kdhe.state.ks.us/idp/state_suicide_prevention.html

Information about this subcommittee and other suicide prevention news in Kansas can be found at
<http://www.sprc.org/stateinformation/statepages/kansas.asp>

If You Or Someone You Know Is At Risk Of Suicide

At any time of day or night, ***please get help.***
Contact the crisis line of your local community mental health center, or call one of the free, confidential national suicide prevention hotline networks:

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1/800/273-TALK
(8255)

National Hopeline Network
1/800/SUICIDE (784-2433)

Línea Nacional de Esperanza
1/877/SUICIDA (784-2432)

If You Or Someone You Know Has Lost A Loved One To Suicide

To find support, please contact one of the hotlines listed above or look for support groups in the "Surviving Suicide Loss" section of the website of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.

Helpful Websites

American Association of Suicidology
www.suicidology.org

American Foundat'n for Suicide Prevention
www.afsp.org

Suicide Prevention Resource Center
www.sprc.org

SUICIDE PREVENTION SUBCOMMITTEE

of the Governor's Mental Health Services
Planning Council (GMHSPC)



2007

SUMMARY

In 1999, the Surgeon General issued a Call To Action To Prevent Suicide. In the United States, suicide had become the 11th leading cause of death of people of all ages, and the 3rd leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds. In Kansas, the rate of deaths by suicide was even higher than the national rate.

Since this Call, a National Strategy for Suicide Prevention was created. Each state has been asked to develop a State Suicide Prevention Plan that focuses on the unique needs of that state.

This effort has been going on in Kansas since 1999. A Steering Committee was formed and activities included two state-wide suicide prevention conferences to gather information on the needs in Kansas. That committee evolved into the Kansas Suicide Prevention Committee (KSPC.)

The KSPC worked to educate professionals who provide services to people at risk of suicide. In 2002, KSPC and the Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas provided a suicide prevention and intervention track in the Association's annual conference.

The KSPC continued to meet to examine the needs in Kansas, and to identify funding to help meet those needs. This group continued work on a Kansas Suicide

Prevention Plan with input from people across the state. The group also worked at increasing the exchange of information about suicide prevention efforts throughout Kansas. The group set a long-term goal of creating a Kansas Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC), modeled after, and working closely with, the national SPRC.

In the spring of 2006, the KSPC became the Suicide Prevention Subcommittee of the Governor's Mental Health Services Planning Council.

In May 2006, this committee submitted a proposal for federal funding, Garrett Lee Smith Funds, for youth suicide prevention in Kansas. Decisions should be announced by October.

The committee has also set goals of continuing to build membership to represent the diversity of our state, finalizing the Kansas Suicide Prevention Plan with input from people from all parts of Kansas, and ultimately decreasing the rates of suicide attempts and deaths of Kansans of all ages.

Suicide prevention truly is everyone's business.

MEMBERS

- Chair:** Bill Art Johnson County MHC, Olathe
 David Barnum Guidance Center, Leavenworth
 Karen Beckerman JJA, Topeka
 Bev Baalman COMCARE, Wichita
 Rick Cagan NAMI-Kansas, Topeka
 Diane Cassity Health and Human Services
 Wes Cole GMHSPC
 Susan Crain Lewis Mental Health Assn of the Heartland
 Brady Dean Kansas Assn of School Psychologists,
 Jason Deselms COMCARE
 Stan Edlavitch
 Andrea Ely UMKC KU Medical Center, KC
 Marcia Epstein Headquarters Counseling Center
 Bill Geis UMKC & therapist, KC
 Lana Gordon State Representative, Topeka
 Charles Griffin K-State School of Family Studies
 Mike Hammond Assn of CMHCs of KS
 Lori Haskett KDHE, Office of Health Promotion
 Frank Heise ivor Group Representative
 Jo Ann Howley S NAMI Kansas
 Leslie Huss SRS/ Health Care Policy
 Cornelia Jeffery SRS/Health Care/Mental Health
 Dwane Kratochvil KDDA
 David Litts SPRC, Boston, MA
 Ken Loos H igh Plains MHC, Hays
 Liz McGinness H Community Representative
 Val Merrow KS Dept of Aging, Topeka
 Ilene Meyer KDHE
 Kathy Meyer Leavenworth High School
 Christine Moser Children's Mercy Hospital
 Carol Moyer KDHE
 Jean Murphy SRS HCP AAPS
 Elizabeth Penick
 Karen Schueler KUMC igh Plains MHC, Hays
 Elaine Schwartz H Kansas Public Health Assn.
 Vicki Seems Franklin Co Area Agency on Aging
 Jane Stueve KDHE-Adolescent Health Consultant
 Ramya Sundararaman Congressional Research Service
 Sheli Sweeney Assn of CMHCs of KS
 Nancy Taylor School Counselor, Shawnee Heights
 Patsy Terrell Mental Health Assn of Reno Co, KS