

Suicide **Prevention** Council Meeting  
**January 17, 2008**  
Madison Center Mtg Room WEST -12:00 noon

**MINUTES**

*Present:* John McIntosh (IUSB), Monica Eblen (Center for Hospice Life Transitions Center), Abbee Smith (Intrigue Counseling), Julia Hess-Sherbun (survivor), Laura Medow (SJRMC), Bonnie Raine (UHS), Kevin Large, Don Cronk (Mishawaka HS), Kathy Krueger (survivor), Bonnie Strycker (YSB), Lani Vivirito (Center for the Homeless), Terry Clark (MFB), Ann Schelle

*Guest:* Carlene Pisciotti

1. Introductions/ Council Roster Changes

Lani Vivirito, LCSW (A) *new position:* Chief Programming Officer  
Center for the Homeless. 813 S. Michigan South Bend, IN 46601  
(574) 282-8700 [lvivirito@cfh.net](mailto:lvivirito@cfh.net)

2. Minutes Approval

3. Year in Review. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- 1 (4) Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention presentations to *area high schools*, impacting ~ 2500 students. Important note: on a consistent basis several students reach out to the presenters and guidance staff after each presentation indicating they or someone they know is in crisis
- 2 (3) ASIST workshops for a total of ~200 *trained individuals in suicide interventional skills* through the Council
- 3 (3) awareness and intervention presentations to *regional first responders/EMS* through SJRMC
- 4 (16) awareness and intervention presentations to the entire *SBPD, officers and detectives*
- 5 Began distribution of awareness and other *educational materials in local schools*
- 6 Participated in *National Suicide Prevention Week*- TV interview, news article
- 7 Provided multiple scholarships to EMS and school staff to be able to attend ASIST workshops
- 8 Participated in "*Stayin' Afloat*" *Festival of Life* in July which raised over \$10,000, almost \$6000 of which was donated to the Council
- 9 *Involved IUSB students in 2 pertinent community projects:* 1) development of marketing profile for advertising/ announcing events/educational activities; 2) data collection from regional hospitals to facilitate local research on suicide
- 10 *Distributed letters to regional colleges/ universities* to offer education and training of students and staff in awareness/ prevention/ intervention.
- 11 Participated in *panel discussion with a cohort group with the Counseling and Human Services program* at IUSB

4. **ACTIVITIES/ GOALS 2008-2009:** *see Chart of Activities/ Persons Involved/ Timelines*

**NEXT MEETING: February 21, 2008 at noon, Madison Center Meeting Room EAST**