

Suicide **Prevention** Council Meeting
September 20, 2007
Madison Center Mtg Room EAST -12:00 noon

MINUTES

Present: - Family & Children's Center, Laura McGann- Grissom Middle School, Bonnie Strycker- Youth Services Bureau, Steven Bright- Madison Center, Monica Eblen- Center for Hospice, Laura Medow, Bonnie Raine- United Health Services, Ann Thomas-Schelle- TransParenting Program

1. Introductions/ Council Roster Changes
 Congratulations to Ann Thomas on her recent marriage → Ann's new name is Ann Schelle
2. August Minutes were approval with the following corrections: also present were Bonnie Raine- United Health Services, Terry Clark- MFB
3. General Business:
 - a. ASIST workshop dates: Nov 13/ 14, Feb 21/22, May 20/21.
 - ROOMS NEEDED – council members will try to help
 - NOTE: Scholarship applications available for schools/EMS
 - b. Report: EMS presentations at SJRMC (3 presentations) went very well and were positively received. Reached all regional EMS
 - c. John McIntosh is doing a presentation today to police on elderly
 - d. Ottawa County Michigan seeking advise from our council to help them establish their own coalition. Meeting dates pending. Past SPC member Theresa Carrico will be working with this group!
 - e. *Stayin' Afloat 2007* . Chris Krueger informed United Health Services of his decision on how he wished the proceeds of the event to be divided among our council and Ryan's Place. A check for \$2500 will be forwarded to Ryan's Place.
 - f. **National Suicide Prevention Week activities, Sept 9-15- report**

Last week:

1. TV interview on suicide and recent CDC statistics release
2. Opinion article on Suicide Prevention submission
3. Conducted 3 continuing education talks to EMS and other First Responders on Suicide: prevention, postvention and intervention along with St. Joseph Regional Medical Center
4. Began marketing EMS Scholarships for ASIST sponsored by Officer Chris Krueger from funds raised during Stain' Afloat Festival this July

g. IUSB panel discussion: SPC panel will meet at IUSB on the 26th with a cohort group through the Counseling and Human Services Program:. Panel will include a clinician/ survivor who is also a guidance counselor for youth, a survivor who is also a Yellow Ribbon presenter, clinician and statistician/ academic Thank you to our council members for their time and expertise, and to the other members who offered their time but weren't needed.

4. Youth Education:

- Yellow Ribbon Prevention Talks in Schools: Mish HS Oct 17, Penn HS March 20 and April 3
- Be-A-Link Presentations & student mentor programs- in discussion phase
- Center of Peace and Non Violence- contacts need to be made
- Bonnie Srycker will report on meeting with South Bend School Corporation at next council meeting
- Promoting SPC educational opportunities to regional schools- Ann Thomas and Laura McGann will brainstorm ideas in this area
- Laura McGann to attend next Yellow Ribbon workshop in October

5. General Education- opportunities we have were discussed

a. **IUSB student projects:** (see attachment). Two goals:

(1) Market the Suicide Prevention Hotline in our area and local resources, as well as other education and awareness opportunities

(2) Collect regional demographic data related to suicides and suicide attempts so that the Council can utilize this data to tailor regional suicide educational efforts

- billboards (Burkhart; poss works with Transpo)
- PSAs
- posters eg in EAP depts. (call national organizations for free posters?)
- wallet cards with Hotline #
- bathroom stall notes
- buses- Terry Clark to get info?
- get local stats: health dept and regional hospitals

b. letters to colleges/ schools (already initiated). Monica Eblen will help

d. get information in hospitals to right departments who can use the educational materials appropriately- Laura Medow

e. work with the Chamber of Commerce (ie Mark Egan)

- post Hotline information in companies/ in newsletters, etc
- meet to see how they could help. Bonnie would help arrange
- could help facilitate company presentations/ ASIST workshops

6. Volunteer Recruitment suggested: ie- put info as well as request for volunteers in Senior Life, etc, SBTribune...

- marketing experience
- computer skills (if needed for website)
- education coordinator

- fundraising skills
 - advertising
7. Council Sustainability discussed. Council decided to investigate the development of a community focus group who could direct our movement from volunteer organization to perpetuity, perhaps as a part of a larger organization. Bonnie Strycker, Bonnie Raine, Linda Pyfer will spearhead this effort.

NEXT MEETING: October 18, 2007 at noon, Madison Center Meeting Room WEST

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Student Projects

Suicide Prevention Council of St. Joseph County and Surrounding Areas

1. Goal: Market the Suicide Prevention Hotline in our area and local resources, as well as other education and awareness opportunities

1. Develop a list of local media contacts for television, radio and newspaper that can be used any time the Council wishes to promote an event, get a story written, etc.
 - list the position of person/ dept needing to be contacted along with the current telephone number (keeping in mind that persons will come and go, but hopefully the position of the contact might stay the same.
 - see if there are special discounts for non-for-profit agencies and how that works (ie. require a letter to be written, to who,??)
2. review national association PSA's, posters and Billboard materials for use in our community.
 - list the costs associated with using them for our community if we desire
 - obtain samples of the above, evaluate the usefulness of each and report findings to the Council for their review.
 - note- would prefer to NOT create a PSA of our own due to limited resources, time and funding

2. Goal: Collect regional demographic data related to suicides and suicide attempts so that the Council can utilize this data to tailor regional suicide educational efforts.

1. Solicit Dr. McIntosh's opinion: what he would like to see done, who does he think you should talk to, and what questions you should be asking
2. call AAS to determine what is already done in other communities
3. review CDC information
4. put together a recommendation that can be brought to the council for approval. Once the Council agrees on the necessary demographics to collect, we can work with our local contacts on the council to meet with local hospitals and Madison Center