

## **Suicide Prevention Council**

### **June 8, 2009**

#### **ATTENDEES:**

Molly Gosline, Nancy Rollins, Elizabeth Fenner-Lukaitis, Marie Gagnon, Al Wright, Tracy Delea, Melissa Heinen, Alicia L'Esperance, Nicole Duclos, Brady Cole, Kim Firth, Becky McEnany, Rep Jim Pilliod, Dr. Betty Welch, Sebrina Posey, Major Michael Moranti, Rhonda Siegel, Maggie Pritchard, Dr. Jim MacKay, Jo Moncher, Elaine Frank, Dr Robert MacLeod, Aviva Grasso, Rep Roger Wells and SFC Dale Garrow

Jo Moncher thanked chairs for their work and communication efforts with her. She announced September 14 – Press Conference and SP Forum for Council and subcommittees. In addition, we are considering inviting selected legislators and other policy makers to join us.

#### **COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR - Jim MacKay**

Elaine Frank is retiring from her job at the Injury Prevention Center. Minutes were moved and seconded.

#### **DATA REPORT AND CASE STUDY – Elizabeth Fenner-Lukaitis**

5 suicides finalized – 1 hypothermia w/ diphenhydramine intoxication  
4 OD

Since last meeting – 21 deaths – 13 GSW, 7 hanged, 1 OD

#### **UPDATES**

##### **Professional Practice**

Survey has been piloted – good feedback

Reaching out to orgs to have them share with their members – looking good

##### **Seacoast Suicide Coalition**

The Coalition formed in response to a number of suicide deaths in the area. The group first focused on the bridges in the area. They now have signs with the national Suicide Prevention hotline telephone number – 1-800-273-TALK. They have seen an increase in calls since installing these.

The Coalition is still forming. Its emphasis is on prevention, intervention and support for survivors. Activities include:

- participating in Portsmouth Market Days
- kick-off during SP Week
- Out of Darkness Walk – 9/26
- AFSP Teleconference Site
- Parent Education re Social Networking site

They are looking for additional members.

##### **Military Subcommittee**

Sebrina welcomed Brady Cole

Subcommittee still growing membership

At each meeting they work on goals; then education

Major Moranti discussed an Army developed video Beyond the Front. It was designed with choice points – with varying outcomes – suicide attempt, drinking problem, good choice. “Bad” choices lead to increased training. Very Army oriented and focused on deployment issues so not appropriate for other audiences. Based on its success, they are trying to encourage development of other scenarios – including women, etc. Released in 11/08. Withdrawn because of intensity. With the rise in attention to suicides, it was brought back out. And has been shown to 100% in NH with at least 10 “high risk” individuals identified.

### **Gatekeeper and Connection Story**

Elizabeth FL reached out to a Facebook friend who had expressed depressed feelings. Both he and his fiancé said it was so helpful! You never know when you make the difference!

### **Connect! Becky McEnany:**

Connect! is now working in Indiana, Mass and VT in conjunction with GLS  
New Media work – Ken is doing presentations around the country  
Grafton and Coos Counties – Tillotson Fund grant approved for Groveton – through EMS  
Congressman Hodes – legislation to bring Connect! to Army’s Postvention efforts  
Safe and Drug-Free Schools - preapproved 4 programs – including Connect!  
Streamlined application process. Has led to a large increase in funds used – including significant Connect! programs  
State Budget – still in process – Suicide Prevention dollars may be included

### **State Plan**

Elaine reviewed the anticipated structure of the revised State Plan and got good feedback. We reviewed the updates from three committees.  
State Plan work group will meet over the summer and will have a draft plan for the August meeting. The Work Group includes: Elaine Frank, Ken Norton, Elizabeth Fenner-Lukaitis, Catrina Watson, Aviva Grasso, Jo Moncher and Major Moranti.

### **Jim MacKay – Closing Remarks**

- The State Plan revision will serve well as the SPC report to the Governor
- How can we really collaborate? Not just within issues but across issues
- Increase training for PS&T – through NAMI – including consumers
- Budget remains to be seen: gambling is not likely to pass in the House, not sure what will
- Opportunity for us to really work together to address these issues

### **Next Meeting**

August 10 from 1:00 to 3:00

Leadership Conference Call on August 3 from 1:00 to 2:00

Respectfully submitted,  
Elaine Frank