

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance  
Community Awareness Workgroup  
*Approved April 9, 2015*

Thursday, February 5, 2015

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. (Conference call)

**Introductions**

Chuck Johnson	Blessing Hospital/Illinois Hospital Association
Mary Ratliff	Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
Nicole Nicholson	Illiana VA
Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health
Libby Bair	Illinois Department of Public Health
Erin Canavan	Illinois Department of Public Health
Mariann Blacconiere	Hines VA
Marjory Lewe-Brady	West Chicago Elementary School District 33

**Minutes from December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014--**

Mr. Johnson motioned for the approval of the corrected with a second from Ms. Ratliff, all in favor, motion carried.

**Announcements**

No announcements.

**Update on the “It Only Takes One” (IOTO) campaign--**

**a. Update from Mental Health America Illinois (MHAI)**

Ms. Martin reported Ms. Curry from MHAI apologized for her absence. Ms. Martin and Ms. Curry spoke earlier in the day and Ms. Curry plans to attend the Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> ISPA meeting.

In regards to the campaign, the contact with MHAI is being finalized, and activities are on hold until this goes through. Ms. Martin continues to stay in touch with MHAI so IOTO work is ready to resume when the contract goes through.

**Overview of Issue Papers**

**a. Update on peer review status and review draft copies of the following papers:**

**i. Service Members, Veterans, their Families and Suicide**

This issue paper draft is being turned over to the new service members and veterans ad-hoc committee that is being formed as a result of the SAMHSA Implementation Academy that Ms. Martin is participating in. That committee will take on the task of reviewing the draft and making changes as needed, as members of that committee were part of the planned peer review as well. A veteran herself, Ms. Canavan is also reviewing the draft. The committee as a whole will be addressed during the Feb. 17<sup>th</sup> ISPA meeting.

**ii. Suicide and the Juvenile Justice System**

Ms. Bair reported this issue paper was sent for peer review by Dr. Jennifer Jaworski, Chief of Mental Health Services at Department of Juvenile Justice at Ms. Gall’s request. The draft presented for the workgroup to review after peer reviews by Erica Hughes of Criminal Justice Information Authority and Dr. Sharon Coleman of Department of Human Services.

The workgroup reviewed the draft sent to them prior to the meeting. The issue paper was last reviewed by the workgroup was in November, however this review was via email and not during an official meeting.

Ms. Johnson inquired as to whether “standardized suicide risk screening” was something that was already developed for youth homes or rather something that is being suggested to be developed. Mr. Johnson suggested reaching out with samples of such assessments to assist these institutions.

Ms. Martin added the draft largely contains recommendations from the national level. Because of that, she feels comfortable taking the next step with this issue paper draft. Ms. Bair motioned for approval of the issue paper and taking to the ISPA for further review with a second from Nicole Nicholson. All in favor, motion passed.

## **b. Review updated issue papers**

### **i. Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Youth Suicide**

Ms. Bair reported she and Ms. Martin received an updated draft from Illinois Safe Schools Alliance. Ms. Bair reviewed these edits. Ms. Martin will review as well and then send the draft to Center on Halsted.

### **ii. Preventing Suicide**

Ms. Martin shared an updated draft of this paper. She and Ms. Bair have noticed changes in the warning signs throughout the review process of other papers, and wanted this paper to reflect that, as it is an overview of suicide as a public health issue as a whole. She also noted that after a request for a suicide prevention overview brochure from an outside party, she began to update this draft.

In the new draft, Ms. Martin updated risk factors and added protective factors. She also added current language for warning signs. She overviewed the paper as a whole: the first section was unchanged, as well as the “Help for Yourself,” “Help for Others,” and “Help for Survivors” sections.

Ms. Bair motioned for approval of the issue paper and taking to the ISPA for further review with a second from Mr. Johnson. All in favor, motion passed.

## **c. Discuss issue paper topic survey summary and select topics for next issue papers**

### **i. Rural Suicide**

Prior to reviewing the draft after the workgroup reviewed during their December meeting, Ms. Martin spoke with Ms. Kerri Smith regarding potential resources to add into this issue paper draft. Ms. Smith indicated a source Ms. Martin wasn't sure was considered outdated is okay to use, and also recommended additional resources. Ms. Bair and Ms. Martin are working to incorporate these changes into the current rough draft. There was discussion as to whether the issue paper might be better suited to address primary care practices as a whole (as many of the recommendations in the current paper are applicable to any practice) and feature a section specifically dedicated to rural practice. Ms. Bair added she still has the contact provided by Mr. Johnson to potentially forward to for review.

### **Update on draft suicide prevention webpage**

Ms. Martin reported the Department does have a new website, along with a new format. Ms. Martin is working with the Department to reformat our information to the new website structure. Ms. Martin will provide a further update at the next meeting.

### **Update on progress to address recommendations from the Youth Suicide Prevention Consensus Building Meeting**

#### **a. Connect to existing initiatives**

**i. Develop a list of existing initiatives**

Ms. Martin reported the list has been developed and will be used for outreach on future projects. Additionally, last month Ms. Martin sent out a request for participation in a webinar series would connect viewers with existing suicide prevention resources in the state. Ideally, these webinars will be monthly. They build on the recommendation to highlight useful resources and direct stakeholders to them. This also addresses recommendation C, which as an agenda item as well.

Ms. Martin has not received any responses from her first request for participants, however plans to follow up, as she first sent the request at a busy time of the year. Individual outreach is also being planned as well as mention of the project at all workgroup meetings this month.

Ms. Martin also added a similar recommendation was made after the webinar held with substance use preventionists. She shared a compilation of resource information with that audience, and is working with MHAJ to add a page that addresses substance use prevention to the IOTO website.

Ms. Lewe-Brady reported her district is looking into bringing suicide prevention into their curriculum.

**b. Use technology more effectively and involve kids in that process**

**i. Discuss youth perspective in future alliance efforts**

No updates/announcements.

**c. Help make stakeholders aware of resources in their area/county/city**

See recommendation A.

**Set agenda items for next meeting**