

**MEETING NOTICE**  
**ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Illinois Suicide Prevention Alliance

February 17, 2015

10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

*Approved May 12, 2015*

VIDEO CONFERENCE:

122 S. Michigan Ave., 7th Floor, Room 711, Chicago  
 One Natural Resources Way, 2nd Floor, Rock River Room, Springfield  
 2309 W. Main St., Marion

**Appointed Members in Attendance**

<i>Present</i>			<i>Excused</i>	<i>Un-Excused</i>
Chuck Johnson	Illinois Hospital Association	<i>Springfield</i>		
Colleen Daley	Illinois Council Against Handgun Violence		X	
Eric Davidson	Illinois Higher Education Center	<i>Springfield</i>		
Jessica Gerdes	Illinois State Board of Education	<i>Phone</i>		
Judy Ashby	LifeSavers Training Corporation		X	
Lora Thomas	NAMI Illinois – National Alliance on Mental Illness	<i>Phone</i>		
Mariann Blacconiere	Representing service members, veterans, and their families	<i>Chicago</i>		
Nicole Hellman	Representing mental health consumers		X	
Paul Fleming	Survivor		X	
Peter Mulhall	Center for Prevention Research and Development	<i>Phone</i>		
Steve Moore	American Foundation for Suicide Prevention	<i>Chicago</i>		

**Ex-Oficio Members in Attendance**

Jennifer Martin	Illinois Department of Public Health	<i>Springfield</i>		
Jessica O’Leary	Office of the Attorney General		X	
Mary Mayes	Illinois Department on Aging	<i>Springfield</i>		
Mary Ratliff	Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority	<i>Springfield</i>		
Master Sergeant Ed Petrik	Illinois State Police	<i>Phone</i>		
Patricia Reedy	Illinois Department of Human Services	<i>Chicago</i>		

**Stakeholders in Attendance**

Libby Bair	Illinois Department of Public Health	<i>Springfield</i>		
Tom Miller	Illinois Department of Human Services/Illinois Joining Forces	<i>Phone</i>		
Erin Canavan	Illinois Department of Public Health	<i>Springfield</i>		
Sandy Szyrka	Illinois Department of Public Health	<i>Springfield</i>		
Trina Diedrich	Illinois Department of Human Services	<i>Springfield</i>		
Becky Levin	Lurie Children’s Hospital	<i>Chicago</i>		
Verletta Saxon	Centerstone of Illinois	<i>Phone</i>		
Katie Baker	Elyssa’s Mission	<i>Chicago</i>		

**Meeting was called to order at 10:27 a.m.**

## **Introductions/Welcome**

Introductions and a welcome were made by Ms. Ratliff. Quorum is met.

## **Review & approval of November 21, 2014 meeting minutes**

Copies of the minutes were distributed to the members prior to the meeting and copies were available during the meeting at the Springfield location. Mr. Johnson motioned for the approval of the minutes, with a second from Ms. Diedrich. All in favor, motion carried.

## **Update from Illinois Department of Public Health (Department)**

Ms. Martin reported the Department has a new director. He visited the Springfield location to give brief opening remarks before the Governor's arrival at the location.

Ms. Martin added the Department has a new website and the calendar function has been changed slightly. Current meetings are now visible from the home page. At this point, not everything from the old website has been transferred to the new website, including issue papers. The Department also has a new logo.

The ISPA listserv is now up and running. Ms. Martin reminded the group not to directly reply to messages from the listserv. Anyone who was a member of the former ISPA email list was automatically added to the listserv roster. Ms. Martin encouraged ISPA members to use the listserv to communicate among stakeholders.

About a month ago, Ms. Martin sent out an email about the new state and local suicide prevention program webinar series. The webinars will be limited to a half hour, giving the agencies who participate time to overview their programs and share what suicide prevention strategies they have. Ms. Martin plans to follow-up individually inviting organizations to participate in this webinar opportunity. Her hope is that when somebody participates in one of the webinars, they will have a one page overview prepared that can be used for promoting the webinar. A template for that one page overview was sent out in the initial email requesting participants for this series. Ms. Martin plans to have the webinars archived.

## **Update of ISPA leadership positions and vacancies**

All ISPA vacancies are currently on-hold.

## **Proposal to add an ad hoc committee on suicide prevention and service members, veterans and their families**

Ms. Martin introduced Mr. Tom Miller from Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health and Illinois Joining Forces Behavioral Health Workgroup (IJF), which focuses on improved service delivery for the state's service members and veterans. There are 9 workgroups within IJF focusing on different military issues, behavioral health being one of those issues. Mr. Miller overviewed SAMHSA's policy academies, which helped participating states' identify their state's particular issues. Since then, SAMHSA has moved on to implementation academies, which Illinois participated in and addressed suicide prevention within its plan. Mr. Miller requested the ISPA add the new workgroup formed from the implementation academy as an official standing committee of the ISPA. Ms. Reedy motioned for the approval of the new workgroup, with a second from Ms. Blacconiere.

Ms. Reedy suggested following formal parliamentary procedure after seconding motions and opening the topic up for discussion. Ms. Ratliff opened the topic for discussion. Mr. Miller added all are welcome to join the new ad-hoc group as well as IJF; all of the work involved is volunteer work. He added there is hierarchy the group must go through when operating, but the group is relaxed.

Mr. Johnson commented the IJF should conduct more training sessions. Quincy has had a good experience with IJF training in the Quincy area, and would like to see these efforts continue in other areas in the state. Mr. Miller noted there has been training in the Peoria area open to a wide range of professionals, and training is going to be held late February in Rockford. All in favor, motion carried. Ms. Martin will send information about the new ad hoc committee to

the full alliance regarding the new group. Ms. Martin stated the new workgroup will meet regularly, just as the other 4 existing workgroups. Ms. Canavan will also be joining those calls and will be sharing her insights as a veteran.

### **Review and approval annual report**

Ms. Martin reported the 2011 and 2012 annual reports were never released. Information was gathered for the 2013 report but at the time 2014 annual report was to be prepared Ms. Martin inquired to Department senior staff as to what the next step should be. It was suggested that all four years' reports be merged into one. Mr. Martin overviewed components of the document, starting with the background history beginning on page 3. Accomplishments of stakeholders are listed after the goal(s) applicable to the specific activity. The accomplishments weren't limited to ISPA members, which made the document a bit lengthier than it would have been otherwise. On page 29, next steps are listed, which were standing items. Ms. Martin sees value in additional discussion regarding whether these next steps are still what the ISPA wants to promote. Starring on page 31 anyone who has participated in an ISPA meeting is listed.

Following this section are data maps. Ms. Martin would like to reach out to the appropriate agencies to make sure there is nothing missing from the report that should be added. Dr. Mulhall noted concern with the length of the document considering the document will be going to legislature. Ms. Levin did not see the same concern with the length—the Legislative Research Unit will summarize the information. Mr. Johnson added he believes this document could be taken to legislators' offices individually to let them know about what is going on in suicide prevention. Ms. Levin believes there might be a way to make the existing prescription drug data more accessible to those who aren't clinicians (changing the language). Since the Department data team is currently limited in staff, Ms. Martin believes any data from WISQARS, etc. may be helpful in completing this project. Ms. Levin will see if the IVDRS team will be able to help out with this data.

Ms. Martin addressed the similarities between goals 1 and 2 as some members noted it is hard to distinguish a difference between them. Mr. Moore recommended taking out "increase the competency" from goal 2 to put the focus on high risk groups and make it less similar to goal 1. There was discussion regarding Goal 3 as to whether the focus on this should be global or local. Ms. Martin and Ms. Reedy will continue that discussion at a later time. Ms. Martin reported *It Only Takes One* efforts will be added to Goal 4, as well as initiatives from Mr. Johnson's task force. Ms. Levin will provide information regarding IVDRS for Goal 5. Also, Mr. Moore will provide information regarding research as well. Regarding Goal 6, Ms. Levin suggested including IVDRS funding information in this section (while activities will be part of Goal 5). Mr. Moore also suggested adding AFSP walks.

Ms. Martin will delete repeated all sections found in the document. Ultimately, the goal is to have a final version of the document ready for review at the next ISPA quarterly meeting.

There was discussion regarding whether to include the need for state funding on this document and whether the ISPA is actively looking for funding sources. Dr. Mulhall mentioned funding brings up a readiness issue—who is ready to take on this type of project/meets criteria. His organization typically assists agencies with evaluation assistance, etc. Ms. Martin concluded seeking future funding opportunities will be added to the section on next steps. The ISPA leadership will continue discussion regarding the next steps.

### **Overview of suicide prevention related legislation**

Mr. Moore reported that among bills that have been filed as of Friday, there is nothing specifically related to suicide. He has been looking into legislation that has been enacted around the country requiring certain professionals to get suicide prevention training, as well as looking into expansions for physical therapists, etc. He and others involved are leaning toward recommending requiring continuing education, rather than requiring training before getting their certificates. They see this as the simplest route.

There is no number assigned yet for a bill regarding gun violence restraining orders.

Ms. Levin noted HB0114 addresses critical incident reporting for department of JJ. SR51 would make December teen suicide prevention month.

Mr. Johnson reported Sen. John Sullivan is working with Illinois Med Soc., Illinois Psychiatric Soc., and other groups to draft legislation to addressing developmentally disabled. This specifically would change the diagnosis reporting age from birth to age 14.

Ms. Levin mentioned HB205 and HB206, which are related to telepsychiatry, and the fact that it is unsure where they came from.

### **Workgroup updates**

#### **a. Data Workgroup**

Dr. Mulhall reported the workgroup has been discussing why Illinois has a lower suicide rate compared to other states in the region. Some ideas included urbanicity vs. rural, different racial/ethnic breakdowns, and in rural areas guns may be more readily available.

Dr. Mulhall also reported Illinois received NVDRS funding from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ms. Levin added IVDRS will include 6-8 additional counties in 2015 and will add more in the following year—totaling around 15 counties. By the end of 2015, the IVDRS needs to cover 80% of violent deaths in the state (at least half homicides and half suicides).

Dr. Mulhall noted the data workgroup is still working on data matrix, as well as working with Mr. Tom Szyrka to potentially have data in the iQuery system.

Results from the gatekeeper training evaluation were added to the Illinois page on the SPRC website.

Ms. Martin included an IVDRS data brief in the handouts for the meeting. Ms. Levin commented that with that data brief, they tried to coordinate data dissemination much more. There was related social media, a press release, and a Lurie blog about the data brief.

#### **b. Community Awareness Workgroup \***

Ms. Martin reported this workgroup is working on several issue papers, two of which were included in the meeting handouts.

*Issue Paper on Juvenile Justice* - The first handout was an issue paper on Suicide Prevention in the Juvenile Justice System, which the ISPA discussed last meeting; however at that time had not received feedback from Dr. Jennifer Jaworski from Department of Juvenile Justice. Ms. Bair reported Dr. Jaworski since provided minor edits to the draft issue paper. A majority of her comments were related to data; Ms. Martin and Ms. Bair double-checked and confirmed data sources in response to those comments. Ms. Bair reminded the group this issue paper was also reviewed by Ms. Erica Hughes of Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and Dr. Sharon Coleman of Illinois Department of Human Services. Mr. Johnson motioned to approve the issue paper for publishing and subsequent dissemination, with a second by Dr. Davidson. Ms. Martin opened the topic up for discussion; there was no additional discussion. All in favor, motion carried.

*Issue Paper on Prevention Suicide* - Ms. Martin provided background information on the second handout, "Preventing Suicide." This was an updated version of the first issue paper ever created. Ms. Martin noted since that issue paper's release the field has seen more unified definitions on risk factors/warning signs as well as youth-specific warning signs. Changes in the current draft reflect that growth in the field. Protective factors were also added to the draft and there was a slight change to the warning signs (the same change to all issue

papers). Essentially, this issue paper is a central place to include the most basic information on suicide prevention. Mr. Moore motioned to approve the issue paper for publishing and subsequent dissemination, with a second by Ms. Gerdes. Ms. Martin opened the topic up for discussion; Ms. Levin recommended shedding more light on data. Ms. Martin noted she could add the standard response that over 1,000 Illinoisans die by suicide each year. Ms. Levin also noted depending on the audience of the issue paper, some language may need changed. Terms such as “lethal means” are not part of everyone’s vocabularies. The group votes to approve the issue paper with the recommended changes. All in favor, motion carried.

### **c. Education and Training Workgroup**

Ms. Bair reported the following items related to the 2015 statewide suicide prevention conference:

- The call for abstracts closed January 30<sup>th</sup> for breakout submissions. 13 were received and reviewed by the ad-hoc planning committee on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Acceptance/rejection letters were sent.
- The committee is continuing to accept submissions for poster and program displays and plans to send out a reminder via the ISPA listserv and to other conference stakeholders next week.
- As reported last meeting, Dr. Michael Hogan is the morning keynote on behavioral/health care integration and the national perspective to suicide prevention. For the afternoon keynote session, Ms. Bair and Ms. Martin will be meeting with three panelists and a moderator. They have identified 3 recovery support specialists who will speak to their personal experience with suicide, and Nanette Larson, Director of Recovery Support Specialists will be moderating the discussion. During our call they will determine how the panel will flow and agree on the learning objectives for the session.
- Ms. Martin and Ms. Bair will start to complete CEU applications within the next couple of weeks now that the committee has selected breakouts and is obtaining the information needed from the panel.
- Department senior staff approved a draft sponsorship/for-profit display form. It is being developed into an online form by IPHA, and Ms. Bair and Ms. Martin will forward this out as soon as it is completed.
- The committee is working with IPHA to have registration ready to go by early March. The fee to attend will be the same as last year-- \$75.
- Ms. Martin is working with a crisis center in the Bloomington-Normal area to have mental health support on-site at the conference.

Ms. Martin shared the conference webpage with those in attendance.

Ms. Martin provided the following updated related to the pre-conference event:

- There were many discussions on what approach to take for the event—the event will take an educational approach rather than an implementation approach. The information presented will be appropriate for those in both the general information and implementation stages of the process.
- Dr. Hogan will be a presenter, along with representatives from SPRC and Centerstone.
- The flyer for this event is currently being reviewed for approval by Division Chief Pressley.
- IPHA is working on the registration process for this event.
- Ideal participants for the pre-conference are those who are interested in going back to their agencies and implementing the strategies learned.
- Ms. Martin also mentioned an appointed member thought Dr. Hogan would be a good representative of suicide prevention to meet with Gov. Rauner.

Ms. Martin reported she, Ms. Bair and Ms. Canavan reviewed comments and questions from the webinar for substance use disorder preventionists and discussed compiling the additional information requested by attendees into one central place. Ms. Martin discussed putting relevant information online with both MHAI and Prevention First.

Ms. Bair updated her, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Canavan met to discuss recent changes in the Higher Education survey draft she has been working on. From that discussion Ms. Bair was able to cut the survey down to 25 questions. Per Dr. Davidson's suggestion, the survey is sorted by way of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention strategies. Next steps for this project include running a draft version of the survey by those working in higher education to gather their opinions on the language used and sorting of questions, as well as running the questions by the Department data team. Ms. Bair has also been working to merge higher education contact lists from both Dr. Davidson and Dr. Sandy Colbs.

#### **d. State Agency Support and Review Subcommittee**

Ms. Reedy noted if anyone has contacts from stakeholder organizations that would be interested in professional competency legislation to let Ms. Thomas, Mr. Moore, or herself know.

Ms. Martin reported scholarships are being offered for attendance at the March 17<sup>th</sup> substance use and suicide prevention session at the IAODAPCA spring conference, however there aren't very many left. This will be a 5 hour workshop starting with Dr. Amaal Tokars looking at data use, followed by Ms. Diedrich looking at the correlation of suicidality and substance use. After lunch the workshop will continue with a 3 hour session led by Dr. Anthony Pisani on core competencies for assessing and managing suicide risk.

Ms. Reedy reported she is currently trying to figure out ways to get DHS staff to both Itasca workshop and Bloomington pre-conference. She has seen much interest in the Itasca training; however the majority of people who have been able to apply for scholarships are in management because those whose schedules are written each 2 weeks aren't able to plan very ahead.

#### **Announcements**

Ms. Levin will be promoting the NVDRS at Hill Day in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Moore reported AFSP will have its Springfield lobbying day on Tuesday, April 14 and AFSP can be used as a designated charity for the Chicago Marathon.

Katie B. announced Elyssa's Mission recently launched a Facebook campaign.

Ms. Levin reported IVDRS has a Facebook page and a Twitter handle. It doesn't have a website yet, as Lurie Children's Hospital is making website changes.

**Adjourned at 2:14.**