

Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting  
Friday, August 18, 2023 – 11:00am to 12:30pm via Microsoft Teams

**DRAFT** Minutes

*The mission of the Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition is to make Frederick County free of suicide through community collaboration rooted in suicide prevention best practices for safe and responsible gun storage, eliminating stigma surrounding suicide, and support for anyone thinking of or impacted by suicide.*

[Suicide Prevention Coalition website](#)

**Attendance**

Jay Hessler, LCPC, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Services, Frederick County Health Department and Local Behavioral Health Authority

Amanda Adams, Child & Adolescent Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Lindsay Barnhart, States Attorney Office

Suzy Boisclair, Supervisor of Victim Services, Frederick Police Department

Suzi Borg, Director of Crisis Services, Mental Health Association

Monica Kirkpatrick, Patient Finance Services Manager for Outpatient Services, Mountain Manor

Richard Sedlak, MD MPH, COL (ret.) US Army

Rachel Mandel, MD, Trauma Responsive Frederick, Veteran

Reed Preece, Tactile Investigations Unit, Frederick Police Department

Patty Walcott, Office of Suicide Prevention, MDH, Behavioral Health Administration

Chad Atkins, Lieutenant, Patrol Operations Division, Frederick County Sheriff's Office

Jamel Freeman, Suicide Loss Survivor

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Jessica Ellis, Harm Reduction/Diversion Program Manager, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Jenna Moseman, Family Advocate, Frederick County Child Advocacy Center

Willa Naegele, Program Director of Mobile Crisis, Sheppard Pratt

Michael Moore, States Attorney Office

## **Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Review/Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
4. Veterans Subcommittee Report Out
5. Breakouts by Subcommittee
  - a. Responsible Gun Ownership
  - b. Education/Outreach
  - c. Postvention/Support Services
6. Subcommittee Report Out
7. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention
8. Adjourn

### **1. Introductions**

Jay Hessler convened the meeting and introductions of meeting attendees occurred.

### **2. Review/Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were reviewed and no corrections were noted.

### **3. Announcements**

- Mr. Hessler provided an update regarding the Suicide Prevention PSA currently in the works. The initial kick-off meeting occurred with Channel Communications. Identified focus on how to talk to individuals considering suicide and resources to support.
- Amanda Adams provided information about the upcoming Trevor Project Ally Training held by The Office of Suicide Prevention – link to register: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-trevor-project-ally-training-tickets-689585106617?aff=oddtcreator>

### **4. Veterans Subcommittee Report Out**

- Mrs. Adams provided the report out. The Veterans subcommittee met on 8/14/2023. The subcommittee continues to work on the Ask the Question campaign and implementation within Frederick County. The subcommittee has identified community agencies/partners to connect with regarding how they are

identifying Veterans and how they are doing so. The subcommittee is in the process of developing language to utilize when connecting with the identified community agencies/partners. Dr. Mandel added it is important to emphasize the rationale behind this work and the connection to the Governor's Challenge.

## **5. Breakouts by Subcommittee**

- *Responsible Gun Ownership*
- *Education/Outreach*
- *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*

## **6. Subcommittee Report Out**

- *Responsible Gun Ownership*: Dr. Mandel provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed the in progress PSA and focused on discussion around the 40-second video. The subcommittee discussed the county's excitement about the PSA and the importance of the PSA. Captain Eyler will be the individual speaking in the PSA. The subcommittee provided comments about the PSA to bring back to the county creative for discussion. Key Tag Lines from the PSA are: Store. Separate. Secure. & If you are depressed or distressed, don't pick up the gun, pick up phone and call 988.
- *Education/Outreach*: Stephanie Shapiro provided the report out. The subcommittee created a shared drive all subcommittee members can access and collaborate. Reviewed the action plan draft to include the goal. The subcommittee discussed possible outreach to firearm and hunter education safety courses, in collaboration with the Responsible Gun Ownership subcommittee. Discussion was held around holding a training for providers that provide safety assessments and for family members on how to provide support for family members/loved ones with mental health/suicide challenges. The subcommittee is planning to participate in Out of the Darkness walk in October.
- *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*: Amanda Adams provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed the landscape analysis and how providers do not seem to know what postvention is. The subcommittee will begin working on email blasts to send to providers to help provide education around postvention. The subcommittee is going to see if a webinar can also be offered to these providers. The first email blast is planned to be launched in September.

## **7. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention**

- Patty Walcott provided the following updates:
- September is Suicide Prevention Month! We will have a campaign launch to share in the coming days - we can't wait for you to join us!
  - i. [Register here](#): September 7th Kick off for Suicide Prevention Month-Dr. Shields presenting on Self Care (virtual webinar)
  - ii. **Save the Date: September 28th- Together We Care Summit- In person in Prince George's County all day event**
- **The Governor's Commission on Suicide Prevention**: The next meeting will be held virtually on **September 20th from 1 to 3pm**. These meetings are open to the public and are live-streamed from the Maryland Department of Health Office of Suicide Prevention's [Facebook page](#).
  - i. Presentation from the Trevor project on Maryland specific data

- ii. Presentation from Marcus Alston on HB 0375
    - 1. Requiring the State Department of Education to develop guidelines for public schools and the Maryland Higher Education Commission to develop guidelines for public institutions higher education to train coaches to recognize indicators of mental illness and behavioral distress in students who participate in athletic programs in public schools and public institutions of higher education
  - iii. Updates from Dr. Paul Nestadt the Newly appointed Chair for the Suicide Fatality Review Committee
- Trainings: Free to the public (feel free to share)
  - i. Upcoming training: Ally/CARE with The Trevor Project!
  - Ally Training- August 25th: [Registration](#)
  - CARE Training- September 13th: [Registration](#)
  - ii. MHFA-Adult and Youth:
    - Adult: August 22nd and 24th
    - Adult August 29th and 31st
      - i. [Registration](#)
    - Youth: September 12th and 14th
    - Youth October 10th and 12th
    - Youth October 24th and 26th
      - i. [Registration](#)

## 8. Adjourn

*Next meeting – 9/15/2023, 11-12:30pm*