

Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting

Friday, September 15, 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

Sandra Wastler, Senior Services Advisory Board

Lynn Davis, Coordinator of Mental Health Services, Frederick County Public Schools

Anne Claggett, Office of Suicide Prevention, MDH, Behavioral Health Administration

Marigny Rusk, LCSW-C, Frederick County Department of Social Services

Kaili Van Waveren, Executive Director, Thorpewood

Rachel Mandel, MD, Trauma Responsive Frederick, Veteran

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

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

Jamel Freeman, Suicide Loss Survivor

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

Emily Tex, Coordinator of Psychological Services, Frederick County Public School

Rev. Dr. Sakima Romero-Chandler, Wayman AME Church

Suzi Borg, Director of Crisis Services, Mental Health Association

Lindsay Barnhart, States Attorney Office

## **Agenda**

1. Introductions
2. Review/Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
4. Breakouts by Subcommittee
  - a. Responsible Gun Ownership
  - b. Education/Outreach
  - c. Postvention/Support Services
5. Subcommittee Report Out
6. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention
7. 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 with Channel Communications. The emphasis includes connection and ways everyone can connect/help individuals experiencing thoughts of suicide.
- Dr. Mandel provided an update regarding the Responsible Gun Ownership PSA. The PSA is 30-45 seconds long and has already been shot. The message of the PSA is focused on securing firearms, being aware of others around you that could be at-risk, about storing ammunition separate from firearms and calling 988 in crisis.
- Amanda Adams provided an update on the magnets/stickers. The final design of the magnets/stickers was approved after review and rollover funds have been requested.
- Stephanie Shapiro provided an update on the Out of the Darkness Walk on 10/14. The coalition has been registered to have a booth at the walk. Anyone else who

would like to participate is encouraged to reach out to Stephanie Shapiro, [sshapiro@frederickcountymd.gov](mailto:sshapiro@frederickcountymd.gov).

**4. Breakouts by Subcommittee**

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

**5. Subcommittee Report Out**

- *Responsible Gun Ownership*: Dr. Sedlak provided the report out. The subcommittee met but has no further report out.
- *Education/Outreach*: Stephanie Shapiro provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed resources/websites that would be helpful and discussed details about the Out of the Darkness Walk. The scheduling of a Suicide Risk Assessment training was discussed and will be paused at this time, as the vendor did not provide a quote for the cost of the training.
- *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*: Kaili Van Waveren provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed the planned email blast regarding postvention to be sent to community providers. The email blast will be short and sent out via the Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition email address.

**6. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention**

- Anne Claggett provided the following updates:
- Suicide Prevention Month is this month!
- [Suicide Prevention Awareness Toolkit](#)
- [Link Tree – MDH Suicide Prevention](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Month Press Release](#)
- [Event Calendar for September](#)
- [Registration for “Together We Care” Summit](#)
- [Maryland’s 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Suicide Prevention Conference Registration](#)
- [School Toolkit Survey](#)
- [The Scoop Newsletter](#)
- [Trevor Project Trainings - Ally Training](#)
  - i. [CARE Training](#)
- [Youth Mental Health Training](#)
- [Safe Storage Mapping](#)
- [Maryland ROPTA – MHFA Interest Form](#)

**7. Adjourn**

*Next meeting – 10/20/2023, 11-12:30pm*