

Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting

Friday, October 20, 2023 – 11:00am to 12:30pm via Microsoft Teams

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

Monica Kirkpatrick, Mountain Manor Outpatient Services

Erika Bishop, Employee Assistance Program/Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Fort Detrick

Michael Moore, States Attorney Office, Liaison to Mental Health and Veterans Court

Jason Barth, Executive Director, The Ranch

Shannon Parkin, Peer Recovery Specialist, On Our Own Frederick, Suicide Attempt Survivor

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

Rachel Mandel, MD, Trauma Responsive Frederick, Veteran

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

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

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

Lindsay Barnhart, States Attorney Office

Kaili Van Waveren, Executive Director, Thorpewood

Suzi Borg, Director of Crisis Services, Mental Health Association

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 shared the Responsible Gun Ownership PSA and Suicide Prevention PSA. Dr. Mandel provided background on the Responsible Gun Ownership PSA: Store. Separate. Secure and advised the PSA has started to be shared. Mr. Hessler provided background on the Suicide Prevention PSA created in collaboration with Channel Communications and Maryland Department of Health. Feedback from the group was received regarding the PSA's shared.
- Stephanie Shapiro provided an update on the Out of the Darkness Walk that occurred on 10/14/2023. Mrs. Shapiro advised the coalition was able to interact with 78 people during the event and made many connections with the community. Amanda Adams advised gun locks were able to be handed out at the event. Mrs. Shapiro created a handout with a QR code leading to the Coalition website that was also handed out. The QR code handout is included below in the minutes.

- Mr. Hessler provided an announcement regarding Crisis Intercept Mapping. The process began with a kick off meeting on 10/19/2023 with community partners, SAMHSA and BHA. If anyone has interest in participating in the process moving forward, please reach out to jhessler@frederickcountymd.gov.
- Suzi Borg shared The Mental Health Association is scheduled to open their walk-in services at 340 Montevue Lane beginning Thursday, 10/26/2023 at 10am. MHA will continue to provide walk-in services at the Jefferson Street location through Wednesday, 10/25 pending the opening of the Montevue Lane location.

4. Veterans Subcommittee Report Out

- Mrs. Adams provided the following report out: The subcommittee met at the beginning of October and continued to work on the Ask The Question campaign. The subcommittee decided to utilize a four-question survey to send out via email to identified community partners/stakeholders to gauge if/how Veterans are being identified within Frederick County. The survey and email to accompany are currently in the works and will be reviewed at the November 2023 meeting.

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 how to continue to distribute/circulate the PSA within the community. The subcommittee discussed wanting further information on education being handed out with gun locks to include how to use them and would like to have further discussion surrounding this topic.
- *Education/Outreach*: Stephanie Shapiro provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed the Out of Darkness walk. The subcommittee also discussed the Suicide Prevention PSA. The subcommittee discussed how additional trainings on the coalition website for suicide prevention could be helpful; as well as expanding resource links and how to highlight how to talk to those thinking about suicide.
- *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*: Amanda Adams provided the report out. The subcommittee discussed continuing monthly email blasts to providers and discussed the contents of the upcoming email blasts for October and November 2023. The email blast will continue to be short and sent out via the Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition email address.

7. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention

- Patty Walcott provided the following updates:
- Trevor Project trainings continue to occur monthly
- Current Trainings through the OSP can be found here: https://linktr.ee/mdhsuicideprevention?fbclid=IwAR0WDEGp_aF7JyZ8pFplpVjl_dqwL_h4LPTThJOBHe98TB6XoZ3rdgoKHMZU
- The first official Suicide Fatality Review Team meeting will occur on 10/24/2023

8. Adjourn

Next meeting – 11/17/2023, 11-12:30pm



Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition

SCAN to learn more
about the Coalition
and how to help!



BeThereToCare.org