

Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting

Friday, December 20, 2024 - 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

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

Jay Hessler, LCPC, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

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

Rissah Watkins, Head of Communications, OPAC, FCHD

Debra Morlier, LCPC, Professor, FCC, Veteran

Shannon Jones, Director of Crisis Services, Heartley House

Richard Sedlak, MD, MPH, COL U.S. Army Veteran, Firearms Instructor

Lindsay Barnhart, Diversion, States Attorney Office

Dr. Rachel Mandel, Community Advocate, TRF, Veteran

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Kevin Britt, Patrol Lieutenant, Frederick County Sheriffs Office

Suzi Borg, Director of Crisis Services, MHA

Karim Martin, Coordinator of Special Programs, Equity Office, FCHD

Danielle Haskin, Director of the Equity Office, FCHD

Jason Barth, Executive Director, The Ranch

Michaela Browne, VAC Coordinator

Patti Buckmaster, Nursing Director for Behavioral Health, FHH

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

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

Enjoli Gomez, Office of Suicide Prevention and Problem Gambling, MDH, Behavioral Health Administration

Agenda

1. Introductions (Name, Agency, How your role intersects death by suicide)
2. Review/Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
 - a. PSA Update
 - b. Family Connects presentation
 - c. ERPO grant update
4. Breakouts by Subcommittee
 - a. Responsible Gun Ownership
 - b. Education/Outreach
 - c. Postvention/Support Services
 - d. Veterans
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

1. Jay Hessler announced the PSA is in the final stages and the final edits are being made by Channel Communications. The PSA should be completed soon and will be shared upon completion.
2. Jay Hessler shared information about the Family Connects presentation completed by himself and epidemiologist, Hillary Gross earlier this month for the staff. The Family Connects program was willing to accept cable locks, the nurses can provide to families to secure firearms in the home. Dr. Mandel shared information about the Family Connects program.
3. Jay Hessler shared the ERPO grant funding was awarded to support an ERPO liaison Frederick and Washington County and the position should be posted soon.

4. Breakouts by Subcommittee

- a. *Responsible Gun Ownership & Education/Outreach*
- b. *Postvention/Support Services following death by suicide*
- c. *Veterans*

5. Subcommittee Report Out

- a. *Responsible Gun Ownership & Education/Outreach*: Jay Hessler provided the report out. The group discussed creative ways to get the PSA in front of individuals and how to expand the reach of the PSA.
- b. *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*: Summer McClellan provided the report out. The group reviewed the recent suicides in Frederick County and what has/has not been done in postvention efforts. The group plans to contact Hood College and FHH to explore what postvention looked like following these suicides. The group is continuing to work on the postvention plan to include exploring resources, ensuring the plan is culturally sensitive and how to address the needs of diverse populations.
- c. *Veterans*: Amanda Adams provided the report out. The group discussed reviewing the Crisis Intercept Map to identify next steps in the January coalition meeting.

6. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention

Enjoli Gomez made announcements on behalf of the Office of Suicide Prevention:

- The Office of Suicide Prevention had a name change and is now the Integrated Health and Wellness Unit; which includes the Office of Suicide Prevention, the Office of Substance Use/Harm Reduction and the Office of Problem Gambling
- Six upcoming trainings in January – visit <https://linktr.ee/mdhsuicideprevention> to view all trainings and register
- [The Office of Suicide Prevention Website](#)
- [Facebook](#) @mdhsuicideprevention
- [Instagram](#) @mdhsuicideprevention
- [Twitter/X](#) @mdhsuicideprev
- [The Scoop Newsletter](#)

Next meeting – 1/17/2025

7. Adjourn

