

Frederick County Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting

Friday, March 15, 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

Andrea Baiocchi Walker, MPH, MA, CPRP, Director, Behavioral Health Services, Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) and Local Behavioral Health Authority (LBHA)

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

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

Hillary Gross, Epidemiologist, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Lindsay Barnhart, States Attorney Office

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

Ramiyah Barbour, Office of Suicide Prevention, MDH, Behavioral Health Administration

Suzi Borg, Director of Crisis Services, Mental Health Association

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

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

Stephanie Shapiro, OFRT Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services, FCHD

Enjoli Gomes, Office of Suicide Prevention, MDH, Behavioral Health Administration

Jennifer Kelley, Community Engagement & Partnership Coordinator, Martinsburg VA Med. Center

Shannon Jones, Crisis Services Director, Heartly House Inc.

Kaili Van Waveren, Executive Director, Thorpewood

Michael Moore, States Attorney Office

Patti Buckmaster, Nursing Director of Behavioral Health, FHH

Jamel Freeman, Suicide Loss Survivor

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

Agenda

1. Introductions (Name, Agency, How your role intersects death by suicide)
2. Review/Approval of Minutes
3. Announcements
4. Presentation on the Mental Health Provider Survey by Hillary Gross, Epidemiologist, FCHD
5. Breakouts by Subcommittee
 - a. Responsible Gun Ownership
 - b. Education/Outreach
 - c. Postvention/Support Services
 - d. Veterans
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

- a. Jay Hessler provided an announcement provided by Tammi Ginsberg, LCPC, and President of the local chapter of AFSP (contact information below) regarding the Long Term Survivors Loss Summit (<https://afsp.org/long-term-survivors-of-suicide-loss-summit/>).

*Tammi Ginsberg, LCPC - 11850 Whiskey Springs Road, Woodsboro, MD 20871
(301) 529-6871*

- b. Jay Hessler shared the Frederick County Health Department will be holding no-cost trainings beginning in April 2024 (flyer below). The sign-up links will be available soon.



4. Presentation on the Mental Health Provider Survey by Hillary Gross, Epidemiologist, FCHD

- a. Hillary Gross provided an overview and the results of the Mental Health Provider Survey. The PowerPoint presentation is included with the minutes for review. For further information/questions about the survey data, Hillary can be contacted via email at hgross@frederickcountymd.gov.

5. Breakouts by Subcommittee

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

6. Subcommittee Report Out

- a. *Responsible Gun Ownership*: Dr. Richard Sedlak provided the report out. The group discussed offsite firearm storage and the liability in returning stored firearms to individuals who may use firearms for suicide/criminal acts/etc. The group also discussed there being no liability relief in Maryland and other safe storage options/locations.
- b. *Education/Outreach*: Stephanie Shapiro provided the report out. The group discussed the Courageous Conversations event that some members participated in at Frederick Community College. There was discussion in increasing the frequency of the event, as the event was very engaging for the students and allowed the students the opportunity to create a sense of belonging.
- c. *Postvention/Support Services following completed/attempted suicide*: Kaili Van Waveren provided the report out. The group discussed about how to get back on track with the continuing the email campaign to resume the effort in getting out

information about postvention.

- d. *Veterans:* Jennifer Kelley provided the report out. The group discussed the Ask the Question survey participation and results. The group brainstormed about creating a training about Ask the Question and military culture to offer to community partners. The group also discussed the possibility of utilizing the 988 videos created by the VA to air at movie theatres.

7. Announcements from BHA Office of Suicide Prevention

- a. Ramiyah Barbour made announcements on behalf of the Office of Suicide Prevention.
- b. Enjoli Gomez is the new Community Engagement Specialist with the Office of Suicide Prevention.
- c. The following trainings and links were shared:
 - The Trevor Project [Trainings](#)
 - Subscribe to our Monthly Newsletter, [The Scoop](#)
 - May- Go Green <https://www.mhamd.org/green/>
 - Follow us!
 - [The Office of Suicide Prevention Website](#)
 - [Facebook](#) @mdhsuicideprevention
 - [Instagram](#) @mdhsuicideprevention
 - [Twitter/X](#) @mdhsuicideprev
 - [The Scoop Newsletter](#)
 - [Linktr.ee](#)

Next meeting – 4/19/2024

8. Adjourn