



Region 2 Suicide Advisory Board Minutes

Time: Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 10:30 am via Zoom

Welcome & Introductions

Attendees:

Taylor Gainey – APW, Linda Milardo – APW, John Saccu – Derby Youth Bureau, Mikhela Hull – Carelon, Mandy Miranda – Wallingford Youth & Social Services, Brian Pasquereil – DMHAS, Erica Skoutas – Bridges Healthcare, Chantell Thompson – Thompson’s Worth, Holistic Services and Coaching, Leigh Goodman – Bridgeport Hospital; Marva Vernon – Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center

CTSAB Updates

- CTSAB is sponsoring a conference “Inspiring Hope: Coming Together for Suicide Prevention” on Thursday May 2nd, 8:30am-3pm at the Sheraton Hartford South Hotel in Rocky Hill. There will be keynote speakers, breakout sessions, a lived experience panel, and more.
- 988 Grant 2023-2026 – The goal for 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline is to increase the capacity to serve in-state users. One objective is to maintain staff capacity by enhancing recruitment and answering at least 90 percent of total calls, 90% of total chats and 90% of total texts.
- Continuing to co-brand with 211 to promote the “no wrong door” – all calls are funneled to United Way.

Prevention Updates

- Alternatives to Suicide (Alt2Su) support groups are now available in New Haven at the Ives Main Library, located in the Philip Marett Seminar Room. Meetings are every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 6:30-7:30 pm. For more information, please contact Cymone Jones at ofasoundmind@yahoo.com.
- [Vita Health](#) is the only telehealth provider specialized in suicide care. Vita Health also offers teletherapy and psychiatry services for individuals living with a broad spectrum of behavioral health conditions. Vita Health is available in the evenings and weekends. For more information, please contact Erin Moroni, MSN, APRN at (203) 400-3491 or erin@vitahealth.care.

Recap & Discussion of At-Risk Populations for Suicide

Taylor shared her screen and gave a re-cap of the list from December’s meeting. The group decided that youth is the main concern for suicide and behavioral health.

Outreach Plan the Group Identified

- Male population (more support groups are needed)
- LGBTQ+ Adolescent Males (acceptance advisory board in schools is needed)
- Disconnected youth 1 out of 5 are at risk. QPR and SOS tools need to be continued.
- School screenings and QPR staff trainings need to be consistent. **All 9th graders should be screened as it is a big transition year.**
- Awareness – Put together a package of information / **a short straightforward behavioral health guide** listing the information, contacts, and resources.
- Share info at Board of ED and PTA/PTO (Parent Teacher Association) meetings, School Newsletters, etc.
- Target school staff – provide prevention materials.
- John Saccu will share the Dalio report – the data has shown that youth are experiencing absenteeism and disconnection. Children at risk of Human Trafficking training is being provided in Shelton Schools.

In the Chat

- Mikhela (mikhela.hull@carelon.com) will send more on Clinton's groundbreaking data and the services they provide in forming resources/male support groups.
- Chantell Thompson, Founder of Thompson's Worth, Holistic Services and Coaching, Chantelltianna@gmail.com.

Next Steps: Taylor will continue building partnerships and get resources out to the schools. Others agreed to reach out as well.

- Create a straightforward behavioral health guide using SOS and QPR information and contact information. Will meet again in March to review draft.
- Work on connecting with non-profit partners, school partners and schools.
- Research male support groups for our region.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2nd at 10:30am via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Milardo
Administrative Assistant