



Region 2 Suicide Advisory Board Minutes

Time: Tuesday December 6, 2022 at 10:30 am via Zoom

Welcome & Introductions

Attendees:

Linda Milardo (APW), Taylor Gainey (APW), Alicia Floyd (Elis for Rachael), Leah Foster (Guilford D.AY. / Guilford Youth and Family Services), Tianna Hill (Trauma Coordinator, LEARN), Jennifer Tirado (Toivo Center/Advocacy Unlimited), Elizabeth DeMerchant (Meriden Department of Health and Human Services), Daniela Giordano (South Central region 2, Beacon Health Options), Kara Sepulveda (Quinnipiack Valley Health District), Ann Petitti (Central Region 6, Beacon Health Options), Cynthia Ratchelous (Trauma Coordinator, ACES), David Melillo (Clinton Human Services), Joshua Licursi (Rushford Prevention), Dana Bossio (Trauma Coordinator, Cooperative Educational Services), Melissa Keilty (Tri Town Youth Service Bureau), Erin Moroni (Vita Health, erin@vitahealth.care)

Alternatives to Suicide, Presentation by Jennifer Tirado:

Jennifer provided a PowerPoint; An Alternative to Suicide – Wildflower Alliance. The Alternatives to Suicide approach was developed by the Wildflower Alliance as one of the only peer-to-peer groups that truly focuses on the topic of suicide. Rather than assessment and risk, these groups are based in creating a non-judgmental space in which to discuss suicide and other taboo topics. She took time for Q & A. For more information on current alternatives to suicide group, and on-line zoom meetings: (860) 549-2058, jtirado@toivocenter.org.

Yale University's Elis for Rachel, Presentation by Alicia Floyd:

Alicia spoke about the group; students who have been impacted by Yale's mental health policies. They are focusing on discovering shared experiences and focused on building connections with students. Alicia took time for Q & A. For more information and to sign the petition: www.elisforrachael.org

Subcommittee for Mental Health Awareness month (May 2023) collaboration:

- Need more Key Leader representation on Advisory Boards
- Need more connecting and networking
- Need more school folks, social workers and psychologists involved in the process
- A 31 days of wellness calendar that includes resources
- QPR Trainings, SOS Trainings
- Staff Wellness Tips
- Quarterly Newsletters
- More lived experience testimonials
- Podcasts to engage youth
- Record meetings

Promotional Event Planning:

Taylor asked if anyone has any openings in January to do a pop-up tabling event at tea shops, coffee shops or libraries and provide resources. She explained the process and said that she could send a sign-up sheet with some dates. If anyone has a date in mind or would like to propose an idea to meet and engage people, please contact Taylor.

Tianna said she will look at some dates for January, and Alicia has openings in April.

Other Business: Taylor is hosting a postvention training on Wednesday, January 18th 9 am-11:30 am, and, Wednesday, January 25th 9 am-10:30 am in-person for both dates at Essex Town Hall.

Lastly, please keep in mind that the holidays can be an emotional time of year for many. Promote 211 and 988. The “No Wrong Door” approach.

Next Meeting: Tuesday February 7th, 2023 at 10:30 am via zoom

Respectfully Submitted by:

Linda Milardo

Administrative Assistant