

From Reno to Denver:
Where We Have Been, Where We Are Going, and
What We Need to Do To Get There



Suicide Prevention Training Conference
Westminster, Colorado
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SPAN USA

THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM



- 29,350 deaths by suicide in 2000
- 16,765 deaths by homicide in 2000
- 1 person every 18 minutes, 80 per day
- 11th ranking cause of death in U.S.
- 3rd leading cause of death for youth 15-24
- 4:1 male to female

LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH FOR SELECTED AGE GROUPS (UNITED STATES, 2000)

	5 - 14	15-24	25-44	45-64
1	Unintentional Injuries	Unintentional Injuries	Unintentional Injuries	Malignant Neoplasms
2	Malignant Neoplasms	Homicide	Malignant Neoplasms	Heart Disease
3	Congenital Malformations	Suicide	Heart Disease	Unintentional Injuries
4	Homicide	Malignant Neoplasms	Suicide	Cerebro-vascular
5	Suicide	Heart Disease	HIV	Diabetes Mellitus
6	Heart Disease	Congenital Malformations	Homicide	Chronic Lower Respiratory Ds.
7	Chronic Lower Respiratory Ds.	HIV	Liver Disease	Liver Disease
8	Other Neoplasms	Chronic Lower Respiratory Ds.	Cerebro-vascular	Suicide

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, 2001

Where We Have Been Journey of Partnerships

- S. Res.84 & H. Res. 212
- WHO document
- Reno Conference
- National Strategy for Suicide Prevention
- Institute of Medicine Report
- New Freedom Commission Report
- State Plans



Timeline

- 1996
 - World Health Organization urged member nations to address suicide
 - SPAN USA Organized
 - Senate Aging Committee hearing held on senior suicide
- 1997
 - Senate Resolution #84 passed
- 1998
 - House Resolution #212 passed
 - Reno Conference
- 1999
 - The Surgeon General's Call to Action To Prevent Suicide 1999 Released
 - National Council for Suicide Prevention formed
 - CDC establishes Suicide Prevention Research Center
- 2000
 - Federal Steering Group formed
 - Senate Appropriations hearing held on Suicide
- P.L.106-554 appropriates \$3M to certify, network and evaluate crisis lines
- Four Public Hearings on the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action (NSSP)
- 2001
 - NSSP Released
 - SPAN USA Tool Bag Conference
 - Senate HELP Committee hearing on Teen Suicide
 - P.L.107-116 appropriates \$3M to establish a National Suicide Prevention Resource Center
- 2002
 - Institute of Medicine Report - Suicide A National Imperative Released
- 2003
 - President's New Freedom Commission Report Released calling for the implementation of the NSSP

Where We Are Going

- Take the crucial step from reports to action
- Goal
 - Increase help seeking behavior
 - Reduce suicide rates
 - Reduce suicidal behavior rates
- Address suicide for all segments of our population
- Ensure equal access for all to mental health services
- Provide a place for all in our communities
- Reduce stigma
- Implement the NSSP, IOM Report & NFC Report
- Form a public/private partnership to lead the way
- Promote evidenced based practices
- Call for program evaluation



Suicide Rates



What We Need to Do To Get There

- Advocate
- Evaluate
- Communicate
- Collaborate
- Replicate
- Educate
- Appropriate
- Facilitate





The Legislative Branch



- House of Representatives
 - CMHS
 - School mental health screening
- Senate
 - CMHS
 - Burden of Mental Illness
 - Public Awareness Campaign to build public support for treatment and recovery and combat stigma
 - School mental health screening
 - Suicide
 - SPRC funding
 - Suicide Prevention Hotline Project funding
 - NIMH
 - Depression and Bipolar Disorder
 - Frontier Mental Health Needs
 - Global Effects of Mental Disorders
 - Late Life Mental Health Research
 - Suicide - IOM Report
 - Department of Education
 - School mental health screening

The Executive Branch

- New Freedom Commission Report on Mental Health
- Program Support – NIH, SAMHSA, CDC, HRSA, IHS, DVA, DOD, Education, Justice
- Research Support
- Evaluation



The Future is Bright

- Legislative Branch is active
- Executive Branch is active
- States are active
- Private sector is active
- Non-profit sector is active
- SPAN USA advocates are active!



The Secret to Success Public/Private Partnership



From Senate Report 107-084 which accompanied the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill for FY2003 (H.R. 3061):

The Committee is aware of the need for additional suicide prevention activities and is impressed with the Surgeon General's report, 'A National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Goals and Objectives for Action', which was released in May 2001. The passage of S. Res. 84 and H. Res. 212 in the 105th Congress recognized suicide as a national problem and declared suicide prevention to be a national priority. **Since then, the Committee is encouraged by the progress being made through the collaborative efforts of both the public and private sectors to raise national awareness on suicide prevention, to develop a national suicide prevention strategy, and to involve States in the development of State plans for grassroots implementation to continue reducing the rate of suicide in America.**

Charge to Group

- Listen
- Speak
- Contribute what you do best
- Ask others what they can do to help
- Ask others what you can do to help them
- Stay on message – Make a difference!
- We can accomplish much more as partners than we can as individuals
- Let this conference be the beginning of a partnership or the reinforcement of an existing partnership and agree to continue this important work when you return to your states


