TN Suicide Prevention Network’s Statewide Efforts

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TSPN Historical Overview

- 1996 – SPAN-USA Created
- 1998 – Reno Conference - Tullis attends
- 1999 – Surgeon General’s Call to Action
  - Tullis convened a statewide expert panel – “Connect TN”
  - Statewide Conference presenting TN Response

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TSPN Historical Overview

- 2000 – Governor appoints Suicide Prevention Advisory Council
  - Regional Chairs Designated
- 2001 – Full-time Coordinator funded by TNDMHDD
  - Interdepartmental Group formed

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TSPN Structural Overview

- Governor’s Office (Executive Order)
- Advisory Council
- Regional Councils
- Interdepartmental Group
TN Suicide Prevention Network

- Organized a statewide Network
  - Participants (Public and Private)
    - Survivors
    - Attempters
    - Professionals
    - Advocates
    - State Officials
      - Link up with existing suicide groups – SOS, SPAN, AFSP, etc.

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TN Suicide Prevention Network

- Organized a statewide Network/taskforce
  - Network/Taskforce Charge
    - Created a statewide response to the national call to action to the national strategies
    - Created a regional structure for the state
    - Develop an evaluation plan to evaluate our progress.

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TN Suicide Prevention Network

- Give the Regions a Foundation
  - Structure
    - These regions need support – have minutes, agendas, etc. – keep detailed records of the activities so you can show outcomes.
  - TSPN ED attends these meetings and keep the process flowing.

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TN Suicide Prevention Network

- Each Region has a Foundation
  - Membership
    - Anyone
      - E-mails and Publicity about meeting
    - Hold meetings monthly/bi-monthly
  - Charge
    - Implement our state’s strategies in each regions
      - Trainings
      - Outreach
      - Distribution of Resource Directories

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Jason Flatt Act of 2007

Signed into law May 30, 2007
Requires two hours of training in youth suicide prevention for all public school staff
No additional in-service stipulations; the training will be incorporated into existing in-service
Online component allows teachers and staff to complete the training at home or from the office
Any and all accredited mental health or suicide prevention concern may provide required training
Similar legislation is already in effect in Colorado and New Jersey; California and Louisiana have developed laws since
Represented team effort between TSPN, TDOE, TDMHDD, JFI