Advancing Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention: An Overview
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Co-Sponsors

• Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (United States)
• Public Health Agency of Canada
• Mental Health Commission of Canada
Speakers

- Richard McKeon, PhD, MPH
  Branch Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch, SAMHSA
- Stephanie Priest
  Director, Population Health Promotion and Innovation Division, Public Health Agency of Canada
- Ed Mantler
  Vice President Programs and Priorities, Mental Health Commission of Canada
- Jerry Reed, PhD, MSW
  Vice President, EDC; Director, Suicide Prevention Resource Center
Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention

Richard McKeon, Ph.D.
Chief, Suicide Prevention Branch
SAMHSA
Preventing suicide
A global imperative
World Health Organization Initiatives

• First World Suicide report
  • Calls on nations to implement a national strategy or national action plan to comprehensively address suicide prevention

• WHO currently working on a document “Preventing Suicide: A Community Engagement Toolkit”
Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention

• International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership
• National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention
• European Alliance Against Depression
• New South Wales Initiative
• United States Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention grants
THE IMPACT OF GLS SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM ON YOUTH SUICIDAL BEHAVIOR

Lucas Godoy Garraza (ICF International); Christine Walrath (ICF International); David Goldston (Duke CSSPI); Hailey Reid (ICF International), Richard McKeon (SAMHSA)
Community Suicide Prevention

- U.S. National Strategy Implementation Assessment Group
  - Need for consensus around the core components of a comprehensive, research-informed, community approach
  - Need for greater specification of roles and associated activities
  - Need for a blueprint and toolkit
Comprehensive Suicide Prevention

- Requires two strong elements
- Strong, multi-pronged community effort
- Strong multi-pronged healthcare effort
- Attention to transitions across a range of settings
- Should be data driven, coordinated by a public-private partnership, and sustained by a strong infrastructure.
Community Suicide Prevention

- Schools/colleges
- Justice settings (adult and youth)
- Workplace
- Faith Communities
- Foster Care
- Veterans/Military/National Guard
Six-Part Webinar Series

1) Overview and Introduction
2) Models for Community Suicide Prevention
3) Sustaining Effective Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention
4) Community Suicide Prevention Among Indigenous Populations
5) Emerging Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention Efforts
6) Bringing the Pieces Together: Developing the Blueprint for Community Suicide Prevention

As we continue this important work we also want to know what you feel you need to most effectively perform this life saving work.
Contact Information

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Community Action for Suicide Prevention – Lessons from IIMHL

Stephanie Priest, Director, Population Health Promotion and Innovation Division, Public Health Agency of Canada
Ed Mantler, Vice President Programs and Priorities
Mental Health Commission of Canada
What is IIMHL?

- IIMHL is international collaboration focused on improving mental health and addictions services
IIMHL Leadership Exchange
IIMHL 2015: Community Suicide Prevention Match

- One of the matches was focused on community suicide prevention
- This match identified key elements of a systemic and evidence-based community suicide prevention approach
- Built on best and promising practices and tools
Who was at the Match?

This match brought together a wide range of leaders from six of the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL) sponsoring countries including Canada, Australia, England, Ireland, New Zealand and the United States of America.
Information sharing at the match

- School-Based Interventions – USA
- Adolescent Suicide Prevention Program – USA
- European Alliance Against Depression: Four-Level Intervention – Europe
- Aboriginal Suicide & Critical Incident Response Team – Canada
- Help for life’ Quebec’s Strategy for Prevention Suicide - Canada
- United States Air Force Suicide Prevention Program – USA
Types of Interventions

- Training
- Awareness
- Supports
- Research
- Restrict Means

5 key components
What we Learned

13 Principles to Guide Community Action

1. Comprehensive
2. Measurement & Evaluation
3. Sustainable
4. Span the Continuum
5. Collaboration/Coordination
6. Flexible
7. Engage People with Lived Expertise
8. Community Centred
9. Culturally Appropriate
10. Recovery Oriented
11. Innovative
12. Strengths Based
13. Evidence Informed
Vision for Action

VALUES
• Dignity;
• Listening;
• Empathy;
• Reciprocity;
• Human/personal connection;
• Fostering trust; and
• Respect.

PEOPLE
Need range of people in a range of roles from a range of organizations

Comprehensive approaches = Community interventions + Health system interventions
### Target populations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>INTERVENTION SITE</strong></th>
<th><strong>TARGETED POPULATION</strong></th>
<th><strong>POPULATIONS WHO ARE MISSED</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Schools, Universities</td>
<td>Students attending school/ university</td>
<td>School drop-outs, youth in legal trouble, youth not going to university/college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplaces</td>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>Small business, day labor, unemployed, immigrant/migrant labour, underground workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Settings</td>
<td>Those accessing traditional medical services</td>
<td>Un/under insured, low utilizers of health care services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGOs, government services (court,</td>
<td>Recipients of service</td>
<td>Anyone outside scope of agency/service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>criminal justice, public health)</td>
<td>Regular attendees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious/Faith organizations</td>
<td>Youth, young adults, hidden populations</td>
<td>Those who don’t attend services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Media</td>
<td></td>
<td>People who do not use internet (elderly, people with lower education or financial disadvantage)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Measurement

- Highlighted the importance of measurement and developing targets and evaluating progress
- Recognize challenges that exist, such as need for real-time data, and tensions in what is valued by researchers vs what is valued by communities
- Suggested indicators:
  - Tracking fatal/non fatal overdoses, suicide attempts, suicide deaths
  - Upstream indicators e.g. school drop outs, intimate partner violence
  - Number of gatekeepers trained, referrals by gatekeepers
  - Policy changes
Disrupters

• What is needed to see more dramatic change in community suicide prevention?
• We need to be more assertive in getting engaged
• We need to be more vocal about the urgent need and not wait for a crisis
IIMHL: Accelerating Change

Vision to accelerate change by:

• Incorporating individuals with lived expertise across the continuum
• Making upstream investments in community suicide prevention
• Articulating the tensions around suicide prevention
• Sparking ideas on how to incorporate innovation, risk-taking, and disruptive change
What’s Next

• Stimulate bold conversations to activate communities and advance the growth of community engagement in suicide prevention.
• We are all the messengers and advancers
  • Engage media
  • Find community champions
  • Empower communities
  • Involve people with lived experience
  • Be bold!
Thank You!

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Questions
Suicide is preventable.
What is the Action Alliance?

Executive Committee
- Private Sector
- Public Sector

Priorities
- Changing the Conversation
- Transforming Health Systems
- Transforming Communities

Task Forces
- American Indian / Alaska Native 2.0
- Clinical Workforce Preparedness
- Crisis Services
- Data/Surveillance
- Faith Communities
- Military/Veterans 3.0
- Research Prioritization
- Workplace

The Action Alliance is funded by public and private sector entities including SAMHSA, Universal Health Services, and the Union Pacific Foundation.
Transforming Communities Priority

Leadership

• Private Sector Co-leads:
  • Bob Gebbia, MA, CEO, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
  • Jerry Reed, PhD, MSW, Director, Center for the Study and Prevention of Injury, Violence and Suicide, EDC, Inc.

• Public Sector Co-lead:
  • Jim Mercy, PhD, Director, Division of Violence Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Transforming Communities Priority

Objective

• Identify and disseminate a core set of elements / strategic framework
Transforming Communities Priority

Product

• Develop white paper that will include:
  • Reviewing available literature
  • Exploring existing resources for advancing community prevention efforts (specific and non-specific to suicide)
  • Identifying key process, infrastructure and programmatic elements
Transforming Communities Priority

Sampling of Items Reviewed

• Evidence-based programs (e.g. Air Force model; European Alliance Against Depression)

• Suicide prevention focused programs and models (e.g. Connect, New South Wales framework, SPRC Effective Suicide Prevention)

• Non-suicide specific programs and models (e.g. Communities that Care; Strategic Prevention Framework)
Transforming Communities Priority

Timeline Goal

• Complete paper this winter
• Determine next steps for Action Alliance
Thank you

Jerry Reed, Ph.D., M.S.W.
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Questions
Six-Part Webinar Series

09/30/2016 – Overview and Introduction
12/08/2016 – Models for Community Suicide Prevention
02/02/2017 – Sustaining Effective Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention
04/20/2017 – Community Suicide Prevention Among Indigenous Populations
06/15/2017 – Emerging Comprehensive Community Suicide Prevention Efforts
08/10/2017 – Bringing the Pieces Together: Developing the Blueprint for Community Suicide Prevention

• All webinars start at 2:00pm and end at 3:30pm Eastern