

MUS Suicide Prevention and Student Mental Health Task Force – Workgroups

November 2015

Workgroup Objectives:

- Develop and host a statewide summit on suicide prevention
- Conduct assessments of current practices and policies and recommend changes as identified
- Develop best practices and common training approaches

Early Intervention Efforts, Primary Care, Screenings and Assessment Tools

Develop expectations for primary care providers in the Montana University System to identify, intervene and/or refer patients who may be suicidal. The work group will identify and disseminate a toolkit that can be used to meet the expectations.

Members:

Mike Frost - UM – Chair

Nathan Munn - Helena College

Kim Watson - MSUN

Rick Caron - Helena College

Matt Byerly - MSU

Darla Tyler-McSherry - MSUB

Joyce O'Neil - MT Tech

Karl Rosston - DPHHS - Technical Advisor

Common Training, Awareness, Education and Collaboration

Develop recommendations on standards for the campuses in the MUS, to look at both short-term and long-term goals for implementation, and enhancing collaboration across the MUS.

Members:

Betsy Asserson - MSU – Chair

Nathan Johnson - MSUN

Jessie Dufner - MCC

Jacque Boyd - Helena College

Brian Kassar - MSU

Tammy Steckler - Helena College

Carlin Hale - FVCC

Elfriede Neber - Great Falls College - MSU

Karl Rosston - DPHHS - Technical Advisor

Suicide Prevention Summit Planning

Host a statewide summit on suicide prevention during academic year 2015-16. (Planning, logistics, develop various tracks and themes)

Members:

Matt Caires - MSU – Chair

Jamie Eastwood Smith - Student - Helena College

Mike Frost - UM

Darla Tyler-McSherry - MSUB

Rhondie Voorhees - UM

Lynn Weltzien - UMW

Andrea Opitz - OCHE

Karl Rosston - DPHHS - Technical Advisor

Means Restrictions

Review our current policies to ensure safe storage and monitoring of items that could be used for suicide. (Weapons, prescription drugs, etc.)

Members:

Brian Kassar - MSU – Chair

Matt Caires - MSU

Elizabeth Stearns-Simms - Helena College

Jerry Girard - UMW

Jamie Eastwood Smith - Student - Helena College

Karl Rosston - DPHHS - Technical Advisor

Data

Review and analyze national survey data related to suicide prevention and student mental health programs, utilization and funding. Survey and analyze Montana University System and community college data and develop comparisons to peer groups.

Members:

Ron Muffick - OCHE

Mike Frost - UM