

Healthy St. Mary's Partnership
Behavioral Health Action Team (BHAT)
Suicide Prevention Subcommittee
April 25, 2017 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Lexington Park Library

Minutes

1. **Attendance:** Laurie Scherer – St. Mary’s College of Maryland (SMCM), Carolyn Cullison – On Our Own (OOO), Dawn Sisk – Pathways, Greg Reuss – American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Glori Van Brunt – Private Practice, Gerry McGloin – Pathways, Jessica Hartman – St. Mary’s County Health Department (SMCHD), Nat Scroggins – Minority Outreach Coalition (MOC), Rebecca Jackson – SMCHD, Dee Rathbone – Parents Affected by Addiction (PABA), Amy Harrell – Community Member, Ann Barber – Community Member, Ted Barber – Community Member, Maegan Odle – Center For Children, Dawn Tucker – Pathways, Meena Brewster – SMCHD, Jenna Mulliken – SMCHD, Sue Maskaleris – AFSP, Allyson Myers – Great Mills High School, Tammy Loewe – Department of Social Services, Dandan Zou – The Enterprise, Rob Elrod – MedStar St. Mary’s Hospital (MSMH).
2. **Suicide Prevention Initiatives**
 - a. **Panel Event**
 - i. **Status Update:** Originally wanted to host the event in the spring but decided to go with a date in the fall to avoid compressed timeline. This allows time for marketing and ensures students will be on campus. The event will be open to the community and is meant to raise awareness. Focus: LGBTQ Youth and Suicide Risk. [Click here](#) is some background from the Trevor Project. **Save the Date: September 28, 2017** at St. Mary’s College in the evening (tentative 6-8 PM). Student Activities may provide snacks. There will be space to put out information & materials.
 - ii. **Objectives:** Raise awareness, educate on risks, and improve cultural competency and ability to respond. Discuss gaps in local services – how to meet this need? A separate training will be hosted in June for clinicians. Target Audience: Students, Community Members, Teachers, Providers...
 - iii. **Questions/Topics for Panelists:** Coping with stress, issues with religion/spirituality, basic risk factors, support options locally, training for practitioners. Can we poll some students for their suggestions on questions & topics? **BHAT Members: Please start thinking of Questions** that you would want answered from panelists. E-mail your suggestions to stmaryspartnership@gmail.com



- iv. **Panelists:** Student/Peer, Trevor Project Representative, Clinician/Trainer, Advocate, MSDE Representative
- v. **Marketing:** Jenna and Laurie will work on a flyer. Once flyer is complete all partners should be sharing. AFSP will promote at walk events, HSMP will promote at the Annual Meeting, CSM and St. Mary's College will send out to staff, students and alum.

b. Suicide Means Restriction Campaign

- i. Awareness: Focus on limiting access to firearms and medication to prevent suicide. Advance the suicide hotline (stickers on distributed gun locks). Teach prevention (suicideproof.org). Clarify that means restriction is not gun control. Partner with gun owners and sellers to lower risk. AFSP has already started outreach to gun clubs and firearms retailers and has materials that can be distributed. They will work with SMCHDs summer intern on this project.
- ii. Gun Locks: Put a time gap in place for those considering suicide – give time for help to respond.
- iii. Marketing/Media: Gerry distributed some examples from other states. He will work on getting approvals for us to use. Pathways staff can also help to distribute.

c. Behavioral Health Screening & Services in the Local School System

- i. Recent SMCPSS Student Summit focused on suicide and bullying.
- ii. Ways for BHAT to possibly support the schools:
 - 1. Draft model policy language: training for staff, crisis response, lethality assessments (Submit to school health council?)
 - 2. Coordinate training for staff (QPR, Talk Saves Lives, etc.)
 - 3. Assemble crisis kits
- iii. CFC is providing clinical services in some of the schools and is hiring to expand services throughout the elementary and middle school system. Youth must have medical assistance and can be referred by parents or teachers. They are looking into other payment options for next school year. Individual sessions are held during school hours but when appropriate, referrals can be made for PRP, FFT or Care Coordination.
- iv. Fleet & Family Support offers services for military dependents at specific schools (Evergreen, Spring Ridge and possibly others).
- v. Glori provides therapy services to youth at Great Mills High School (grant funded) for 12 hours a week. High volume of referrals means that some kids are wait-listed. She has also met with families when appropriate.

