

Connecticut Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative (CYSPI)  
Advisory Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes

June 17, 2008  
United Way, Wethersfield, CT  
9:00 – 10:30 AM

In Attendance: Allison Case, DMHAS; Amy James, UCHC; Aliza Porth and Jessica Resnickoff, Enfield Youth Services; and Judy Stonger, CT Clearinghouse.

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Discussion of Recent Events

- May 23 death of a 16 year-old female HPHS student who had seen St. Francis clinician for suicidal thoughts the same day.
- Preliminary report of June 14 or 15 death of an Enfield male in his early 20s of a gunshot wound.

Contract Update

- Screening for Mental Health's contract has been executed. Bi-annual report due 6/15 outstanding.
- DCF MOA is still pending.
- Sub-contractor bi-annual reports being received and reviewed. Process data and findings will be incorporated into CMHS Annual Project Report due in August.

High School Component

- Cohort I SOS post-tests completed.
- Andrea, Amy and Allison presented a project overview and review of expectations to SDE Assistant Principals April 10.
- A full-day Learning Community was held May 5 for SOS Coordinators to review lessons learned and plan for 2008-2009 activities. Summary notes and sample consent cover letter language has been distributed to SDE and Trumbull. SDE still needs to provide attendance list and evaluations to DMHAS. Schools have been provided cohort-specific timelines, data collection and planning forms.
- SDE schools have provided updates to current year process data and are submitting work plans and program contacts for 2008-2009 to our SDE liaison, Darleen Foley. Program participation and evaluation data for 2007-2008 are incomplete and fewer students than expected were exposed to SOS. DMHAS, UCHC and SDE will continue to collaborate to address issues. Principal Investigator Rob Aseltine has requested a conference call 6/16 to do so.
- Updated research consent form has been reviewed and approved by UCHC's Institutional Review Board and hard copies, instructions and pdf files were forwarded to Guidance Coordinators at Technical High Schools on June 9. Trumbull has received materials electronically.
- Amy reviewed process outcomes at Trumbull where a social worker and school psychologist, not counselors, deliver the SOS curriculum. Curriculum was not delivered as anticipated in third quarter and fourth quarter; data is still pending. UCHC is conducting a unique missing data analysis with Trumbull.

Saint Francis Hospital-Quirk Middle School Pilot

- Staffing challenges continue (vacant position and maternity leave).
- Amy discussed concerns with timeliness of data entry and limited use of web-based data entry system designed for project. Preliminary analysis of data reveals that many of the client

records fall outside criteria of pilot study, i.e. students are in grade 10+, and a limited number of follow-up assessments.

- Andrea and Amy have been attending group meetings on a quarterly basis. Allison to contact Dr. Schichor to address above concerns and May 23 assessment and death. Bi-annual report due 6/15 outstanding.

#### College Component

- CCSU QPR Gatekeeper Training is well underway. 30 participants to date with a June 26<sup>th</sup> training targeting student center staff and an August 22<sup>nd</sup> training targeting RAs scheduled. Sessions with campus security and police officers are also in the works for the summer.
- Aliza and Jessica reported attending a QPR Training sponsored by a community parenting group at Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield.
- Next CSU meeting scheduled for August 1. Allison and Amy to attend.
- Amy reported WestConn has experienced significant delays and shortfalls with regard to data entry.
- Bi-annual reports from Eastern, Southern and Western due 6/15 are outstanding.

#### GLS Memorial Act Reauthorization

- No update from SAMHSA
- A School Health Profile Committee Meeting to explore inclusion of suicide prevention and attempt questions in 2010 that included representatives from DMHAS, DPH, SDE and UCHC scheduled for May 13 was postponed and has yet to be rescheduled.
- Amy met with SBHC Coordinators at the Quinnipiac Valley Health Department about collaboration and expansion of the ADAPSA (Quirk-St. Francis) pilot on May 15. Five coordinators expressed interest and enthusiasm for possible expansion.

#### AMSR Training

- Judy reported that Barry Feldman will facilitate the next AMSR training on October 14. A fourth date, likely in January 2009, is also being explored. Connecticut's only certified trainer, Susan Walkama, has been promoted to President and CEO of Wheeler Clinic and will no longer be facilitating trainings.
- AMSR Training of Trainers will be held April 20-22, 2009. Wheeler will facilitate screening of applicants and selection of participants in conjunction with SPRC.
- To ensure appropriate SDE personnel from each technical high school have received AMSR training, Judy will review attendance records and assemble a list of participants by date and school.

#### ASIST Training

- Susan Moores and Allison Southworth of United Way/2-1-1 delivered ASIST training May 6 and 7. Remaining dates for 2008 are October 14 and 15 and December 9 and 10.

#### Statewide Awareness Campaign

- Proposal review held on May 20; 11 applications received, 9 reviewed and 7 awarded funds. A small surplus remains to be allocated.
- New grantees include 2 colleges, 1 school and 4 community-based organizations. Judy will prepare a summary of projects for August meeting, at least 2 will require some content oversight-approval. In addition, Marianne will be contacting agencies that submitted letters of intent but did not apply to understand (and possibly mitigate) barriers. Review committee also discussed excluding GLS funded entities in future.
- New-grantee training will be scheduled for mid to late Summer or early Fall.

- Current grantee activities continue through June with reports due to Wheeler by the end of July. Judy will prepare a summary of activities and accomplishments for August.

#### Other

- Allison attended the American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference April 16-19 in Boston and a Connecticut Children's Medical Center Continuing Education Program on Suicide and Self-Injurious Behavior on May 6 in West Hartford.
- Allison attended the May 6 Connecticut Youth Suicide Advisory Board Meeting as did Barbara Sheldon. Barbara has agreed to keep the CYSPI sub-committee apprised of the larger body's work in Andrea's absence. YSAB is currently focused on reviewing and updating the statute that established and directs it as well as creation of a mission statement and strategic planning document. DeAnna continues to be extremely supportive.
- Allison and Cheryl Stockford participated on a conference call May 15 led by SPRC on integration and collaboration of MHT/GLS funds and activities with states from across the country.
- Allison and Amy participated in a CMHS conference call with SPRC and Macro on June 2. Next call is tentatively scheduled for August 4 (alternate is August 11).
- Allison attended the DCF-sponsored workshop Assessing and Intervening with Suicidal and Self-Injurious Youth at Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield on June 4 and participated in an SPRC conference call on Planning, Implementing and Evaluating Social Marketing Campaigns on June 12.

#### Evaluation

- Amy presented preliminary findings from Connecticut State University, Quirk-St. Francis, and Connecticut Technical High School components. In general, process findings indicate we are not reaching targets and need to emphasize timely, accurate entry and reporting of data. DMHAS and UCHC will continue to work with sub-contractors to address these concerns. Sub-contractor delays have limited UCHC's ability to evaluate and report on the project.
- Amy will assist Allison with completion of upcoming cross-site evaluation tools and processes, including the Products and Services Inventory.

#### Upcoming Meetings

Tuesdays, August 19; October 21; and December 16 from 9:00 – 10:30 at United Way

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Handouts: April 8 Meeting Minutes; Means Matter: Suicide, Guns and Public Health; Preliminary Data from 2007-2008 School Year