

LAC Suicide Prevention Network



Schools and Youth Workgroup

Next Meeting: January 6th, 2020 (11am-1pm)

For questions email info@LASuicidepreventionnetwork.org

Notes and Action Item: December 2nd, 2019

Presentation: Youth Suicide and Homicide Data

Nicolle Perras, Health Program Analyst, Office of Women's Health, shared an update on LA County 2013 – 2017 Data on Youth Suicide and Homicide for three age groups; 10 – 14, 15 – 19, and 20 – 24 year olds.

Questions asked on the National Violent Death Reporting System include: Has the person been diagnosed with a mental health condition? Been hospitalized for mental health? Disclosed intent of suicide? 40 states are participating, including CA.

Discussion and Recommendations:

- There were 41 school shootings in CA this last year – It was recommended to prepare a resource list ready to be sent out to communities – including facts and a narrative or an educational piece on the relationship of suicide to violence prevention - suicide accounts for the highest number of gun violence deaths (but majority of people don't know that).
- Important to discuss the interrelatedness of violence, homicide and suicide, with emphasis on shared risk and protective factors to include discussion on school shootings, mass shootings and suicide. The group recommended developing a fact sheet with shared facts, messages and resources; including case studies that provide a comprehensive picture.
 - How can we change the narrative from blame (gangs) to underlying issues of hopelessness and despair, socio-economic factors?
- Incorporate suicide prevention into existing conversations/programs related to violence prevention and other public health issues.

- Develop talking points for members about suicide prevention to be used as part of other conversations being had.
- Identify what other subcommittee's members are already participating in.
- Establish a list of existing coalitions/committees and identify ways to connect with them – the group suggested inviting them in to present, as well as exploring how their data can be mutually beneficial.
 - Office of Violence Prevention
 - Trauma Prevention Initiative (4 different neighborhoods)
 - ICAN (and all subcommittees including, SP, Child Death, Operations, Grief and Loss, Data, Safe and Surrender)
 - Domestic Violence Council
 - Substance Abuse Prevention and Control
 - Gang Taskforce
 - Human Trafficking
 - Victims of Crime (DA's Office)
 - Haven
 - Cross Roads
 - *Look at Portrait of LA for existing coalitions*
 - *More – please share others you serve on or are aware of!*
- Identify other LA County strategic plans on other health topics to align with suicide prevention strategic plan.
 - Jewel recommended Dr. Errol Sutters USC.
 - Nicole recommended CDC technical packages.
 - Michelle C. will follow-up with Eve Sheedy – L.A. City Domestic Violence Division Director – looking at intersectionality of violence & mental health – Is mental health a subcommittee of domestic violence council?

Presentation: Shields for Families

Christina Marie Ramirez, Program Coordinator for Schools of Behavioral Health Services Division and Lesli Odd, Childrens Mental Health Program Coordinator for Shields for Families provided a presentation on Shields Youth and School-Based programs (see attached).

Discussion and Recommendations:

- Shields for Families has made an emphasis on providing all services in house, utilizing restorative justice and providing a family centered treatment model. In addition, Shields for Families has incorporated suicide prevention and postvention strategies into their

treatment and operational models including principles such as: fostering connectedness, life skills and resilience, and increasing help-seeking.

- Shields for Family to share the mental health risk assessment-screening tool.
- Jana to send Friday Night Lights resiliency survey to Shield.

Additional Action Items:

- Members are asked to send additional peer based clubs they are aware of to michelle@teenlineonline.org