

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SUICIDE FATALITIES
MINUTES
June 3, 2016
9:30 a.m.

Division of Public and Behavioral Health
Office of Suicide Prevention
9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 200
Reno, NV 89521

Toll-Free Dial Number
(866) 434-5269
Conference Code
7501044

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT IN RENO

Heather Shoop, Co-Chair, CADC (WestCare)
Sergeant John Harney, Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department
Marlyn Scholl, Co-Chair LCSW, Veterans
Administration, Sierra Nevada Health Care System,
Reno
Kathy M. Ingelse, DNP, RN, PMHNP-BC, FNP-BC,
Orvis School of Nursing, University of Nevada,
Reno (UNR)
Dr. Lesley Dickson, MD (Nevada Psychiatric
Association)
John Fudenberg, Clark County Coroner

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Mike Bernstein, M. Ed. (Southern Nevada Health
District)

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT IN RENO

Misty Allen, State Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Child Family
and Community Wellness, Office of Suicide Prevention (DPBH-CFCW-OSP)
Richard Egan, Suicide Prevention Training and Outreach Facilitator, DPBH-CFCW-OSP
Angela Friedman, Administrative Assistant, DPBH-CFCW-OSP

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT BY PHONE

Beth Handler, MPH, Bureau Chief, CFCW

OTHERS PRESENT IN RENO

Sharon Benson, Senior Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Dr. Laura Knight, Deputy Chief Medical Examiner, Washoe County Medical Examiner/Coroner's Office
Carolyn DeTierra, Healing Center Director, Washoe Tribal Health Center
Fran Maldonado, Tribal Liaison, Division of Child and Family Services

Heather Shoop called the meeting of the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF) to order at 9:45
a.m. The meeting was properly posted at the locations listed on the agenda in accordance with the
Nevada Open Meeting Law (OML).

1. **ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Attendees made their introductions and Heather Shoop determined a quorum of the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities was present.

2. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN MEETING HELD ON APRIL 13, 2016**

No corrections, deletions or additions were made to the minutes as presented.

HEATHER SHOOP ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 13, 2016 MEETING AS PRESENTED. A MOTION TO APPROVE WAS MADE BY KATHY INGELSE. JOHN HARNEY SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

Ms. Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

3. **UPDATE ON AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE MOU BETWEEN THE VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AND THE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SUICIDE FATALITIES.**

Marlyn Scholl reported the MOU is with her supervisor, the Chief of Mental Health. Ms. Scholl will meet with the Chief who has some recommendations to help the MOU move forward. Sharon Benson offered her assistance to Ms. Scholl. Richard Egan noted a few past fatality cases are on hold for review to obtain more information from the Veterans Administration.

Heather Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

4. **UPDATE ON AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE VACANT MEMBER POSITIONS REPRESENTING NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES, MENTAL HEALTH AGENCIES, AND ADVOCATES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WITH MENTAL ILLNESS TO BE APPOINTED BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.**

Misty Allen introduced Carolyn DeTierra who has submitted her application to represent Native American Tribes. Ms. DeTierra introduced herself. She mentioned six suicide attempts occurred since she has been working with the Washoe Tribal Health Center, and two attempts within the last 48 hours. She noted difficulty initializing Legal 2000 holds and hopes to change the system with tribal police.

Richard Egan explained Joanne Libertelli's proxy for representative of a mental health agency did not feel she could represent adequately. Mr. Egan is awaiting a recommendation from Spring Mountain Treatment Center to fill the vacant position. Members discussed accepting suggestions for a representative of a mental health provider residing in Southern Nevada.

Ms. Allen noted Senator Spearman, Assemblywoman Benitez-Thompson, and Sheila Leslie have been or will be invited to apply for membership to represent as an advocate for individuals and families with mental illness.

Heather Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

5. **DISCUSS UTILIZATION OF DIRECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT DURING THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

Misty Allen reported Director Richard Whitley has tasked the Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) and the Office of Suicide Prevention to develop implementation plans for all 12 recommendations made by the Committee. Recommendation #1 represents a National Zero Suicide Initiative. A committee named Continuum of Care in Washoe County was created prior to the

Director's approval of the recommendations. With funding, the Division of Public and Behavioral Health will implement a pilot project with hospital emergency departments. The Zero Suicide Initiative created survey will be distributed to hospitals to determine gaps in care. Richard Egan mentioned the CHIPS transition housing program in Southern Nevada. Heather Shoop noted bringing Collaborative Assessment Management of Suicidality (CAMS) to Nevada will help in the discharge process of the hospitals. CAMS is an evidence-based framework which fits into therapeutic modality and focuses on suicidality. A study will be coming out from University of Nevada, Reno which compares CAMS to Dialectal Behavioral Therapy. The State of Nevada is trying to find the funding to train 300 clinicians on CAMS, and also conduct the training online.

Ms. Allen noted Julia Peek, DPBH Deputy Administrator is focusing on tracking real time data. The Division is looking at changing the language of the bill which created the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities to include collection of suicide attempt data. Ms. Shoop reported attending a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) meeting on suicide death and attempt surveillance which strongly encouraged obtaining data on suicide attempts. Beth Handler will forward the names of the databases of real time data to the Committee.

The Director's Office would like the implementation plan of the 12 recommendations developed by August 2016. Ms. Handler and Ms. Allen will work to contract with a facilitator and writer to help develop the plan using the members' suggestions and may develop focus groups. Ms. Allen stated she believes this will become the updated statewide strategy for suicide prevention.

Carolyn DeTierra was interested in whether Nevada has tracked and compared the attempts with suicide deaths. The members discussed 33% of the persons in the cases reviewed by the Committee, based on the limited information retrieved, have attempted suicide in the past. The percentage is consistent with the national data. They discussed the need to research this data statewide, and university students' or university residents' desire to be published for such a research project. They discussed researching the connection between patients' behavioral health care contact and hospital discharges, and suicide attempts or deaths. Dr. Laura Knight believed the research could possibly be completed by February 2017, before the start of the State's Legislative Session. Dr. Knight and Coroner John Fudenberg discussed the number of suicide cases in Nevada and their jurisdictions. Ms. Allen reported on the positive changes in Nevada's rates, and the negative changes in the nationwide rate. The members discussed the possibility of interpretation within the reports skewing the data for the rural counties, and the differences in determining cause and manner of death within the counties. Nevada has applied to become part of the National Violent Death Reporting system, which currently collects data from 20 states. Dr. Knight noted a majority of Nevada's data is accurate and very good. Coroner Fudenberg noted Nevada's data is much more accurate than most states.

Ms. Allen suggested members send their suggestions for implementation of the 12 recommendations to her.

The Committee discussed the prevention of overlap of data collection with the Nevada Child Death Review Committee (CDR), and the reason the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF) focuses more on adult suicides. Ms. Allen noted the statute recommends collaborating with other committees. Ms. Shoop believes the CDR will be sharing some case information with CRSF. Richard Egan is a Co-Chair of the Clark County Child Death Review Team (CDRT) and stated CDRT looks at every case, not a sample selection. Misty Allen is a member of the CDR Executive Committee.

Ms. Allen noted Ryan Gustafson with the Division of Child and Family Services and the Mobile Crisis Response Team is working on a post-vention plan for the state's schools and communities. Ms. Allen noted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS) 2015 data shows attempts at younger ages, more frequency of attempts, and more thoughts of death, but the rate for youth in Nevada is below the national rate. Members discussed escalations of attempts may be related to heightened awareness and reporting within the communities. This leads to more frequent referrals to care.

Ms. Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

6. CLOSED WORKGROUP SESSION PER NRS 439.5108 TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION DURING FATALITY REVIEW PROCESS

Heather Shoop adjourned the open meeting at 10:23 a.m. to begin the closed session of the meeting.

Ms. Shoop called the open meeting back on the record at 2:26 p.m. Separate minutes of the closed meeting have been prepared.

Ms. Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

7. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS AND DATE.

Agenda items to include in the next meeting were: discussion of the implementation plan for the 12 recommendations, progress on the Veterans Administration MOU, and member vacancies within the Committee.

Dr. Lesley Dickson noted Dr. Joseph Kithas, a child psychiatrist from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Student Health is very interested in participating in the Committee. Misty Allen felt the representative needs to be from an inpatient facility therefore Dr. Kithas could not qualify as a representative of a mental health agency, although he could be a proxy for Dr. Dickson. Dr. Kithas may also apply as a representative of an advocate for individuals and families with mental illness.

Sharon Benson stated Joelle Gutman, Domestic Violence Ombudsman with the Attorney General's Office would like to attend the Committee's meetings. Richard Egan suggested Ms. Gutman send him the case of her concern for Committee's review at the next face to face meeting.

Coroner John Fudenberg spoke with Reno Mayor Hillary Schieve who offered her support to the Committee as an advocate along the lines of public service announcements and awareness. Mayor Schieve would like to attend the next meeting. Heather Shoop suggested having Mayor Schieve participate in developing the implementation plan. Coroner Fudenberg will share the report and the recommendations with Mayor Schieve.

Ms. Allen noted the next report to the Director is due September 2016. Ms. Allen believed the facilitator/writer for the implementation plan could not be hired until July 1, 2016.

Dr. Dickson noted on June 29, 2016 the Legislative Committee on Healthcare will meet all day to discuss behavioral health.

The members discussed the date of the next teleconference. The next meeting will be June 27, 2016 at 9 a.m.

Dr. Dickson expressed concern about the implementation of Recommendation #1 without the increase in services, discharge resources and additional funding.

Ms. Shoop suggested the next face to face meeting be held in Las Vegas prior to the start of the Legislative Session. Coroner Fudenberg suggested his office for the meeting location. The members discussed one day of case review is best with a time frame of 9:30 a.m. to about 4:00 p.m. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, January 24, 2016. Travel needs will be started as early as possible. Ms. Allen suggested Ms. Benson approach her office for fiscal support.

Ms. Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

8. PUBLIC COMMENT

Heather Shoop asked for public comment. None was heard.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.