

COMMITTEE TO REVIEW SUICIDE FATALITIES
MINUTES
March 17, 2017
9:00 a.m.

Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)
Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness
(BCFCW)
Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP)
9670 Gateway Drive, Suite 200
Reno, Nevada 89521

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

DPBH-BCFCW-OSP
3811 West Charleston Boulevard, Suite 210
Las Vegas, Nevada 89102

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

Marlyn Scholl, LCSW, Veterans Health
Administration, Sierra Nevada Health Care System,
Reno, Co-Chair
Carolyn DeTierra, MFT, Director, Washoe Tribal
Healing Center
Lesley Dickson, MD, Nevada Psychiatric Association
Sheila Leslie, MA, Behavioral Health Program
Coordinator, Washoe County Social Services
Sergeant John Harney, Las Vegas Metropolitan
Police Department

BOARD MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Heather Shoop, MSW, CADC, WestCare,
Co-Chair
Mike Bernstein, M. Ed., representative of
injury prevention, Nevada Coalition for Suicide
Prevention
Gregory Cowper, Director of Business
Development, Montevista Hospital
John Fudenberg, Clark County Coroner
Kathy Ingelse, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC,
FNP-BC, representative of providers of health
care

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT IN RENO

Misty Vaughan Allen, State Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health,
Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, Office of Suicide Prevention (DPBH-BCFCW-OSP)
Angela Friedman, Administrative Assistant, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS

Richard Egan, Suicide Prevention Training and Outreach Facilitator, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP

OTHERS PRESENT BY PHONE

Sharon Benson, Senior Deputy Attorney General, Attorney General's Office
Brooke Wanser, Metro Intern, Las Vegas Review Journal

Marlyn Scholl called the meeting of the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF) to order at 9:05 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

Marlyn Scholl asked for attendees to introduce themselves. A quorum was not present. Sharon Benson reminded the members no actions may be taken during this meeting.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OPEN AND CLOSED MEETINGS HELD ON JANUARY 27, 2017

Marlyn Scholl asked for changes to the January 27, 2017 open and closed minutes. A few members had difficulty opening the secure email with the draft closed meeting minutes and were instructed they may contact Angela Friedman with different email addresses or fax numbers. No changes were suggested to the open or closed meeting minutes. This agenda item will be held until the next teleconferenced meeting.

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

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

Marlyn Scholl met with the Sierra Nevada Health Care System Director who reported the new Privacy Officer is supportive, but is busy learning his new position. Ms. Scholl has national contacts with whom she will continue work to set national precedence for a standardized Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for use by other states with similar committees. Sharon Benson offered her assistance. Ms. Scholl explained to Brooke Warner the agreement would allow sharing of veteran fatality information with the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF).

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

4. UPDATE ON, DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE SHORTAGE OF MEDICAID BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROVIDERS

Lesley Dickson discussed the Medicaid Reimbursement Rate, inability to attract behavioral health professionals, and events which might occur with the addition of the new Managed Medicaid providers. Dr. Dickson said Dr. Tracey Green, the new Chief Medical Officer for Aetna Medicaid Managed Care, is knowledgeable of the behavioral health needs of Nevada. Dr. Dickson sees an increase in psychiatry residencies. Sheila Leslie noted a bill regarding reciprocity of behavioral health licensure from other states, the difficulty making change within licensing regulations, and the Governor's support of the licensure change.

Ms. Leslie noted WestCare's Community Certified Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) is scheduled to open in July 2017. Ms. Leslie said WestCare's program will be statewide, use federal funds to plan and implement the CCBHC program, and use enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rates similar to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) rates to sustain the program. Dr. Dickson mentioned the psychiatrist shortage and low reimbursement rate. Marlyn Scholl questioned the effect on the project without the Medicaid Expansion. Ms. Leslie said without the Medicaid Expansion Nevada would be devastated.

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

5. UPDATE ON, DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING LEGISLATION BEING HEARD DURING THE 79TH (2017) SESSION OF THE NEVADA LEGISLATURE

Lesley Dickson discussed Assembly Bill 105 (AB105), the changes to the required hours of suicide prevention training, expansion to all physicians, subject matter of the training, and taking into account the ethics requirements. Dr. Dickson and Marlyn Scholl noted differences in the bill's interpretation. Misty Allen noted concern with preventing duplication of trainings. AB105 was scheduled to have a work session, but it was removed from the agenda.

Ms. Scholl discussed an article regarding the federal bill on mentally incapacitated veterans and firearms, and Nevada Assembly Bill 118 (AB118) regarding allowing 18 year old military service persons or veterans to conceal carry firearms. Ms. Scholl and Richard Egan discussed the AB118 regarding personal versus military firearms, the size of firearms for concealment, the training requirement, and all military firearms held at an armory to reduce suicides and homicides.

Dr. Dickson discussed Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) information being used to determine mental health disability, and the latest federal bill not restricting firearms from potentially suicidal or homicidal veterans. Mr. Egan, Dr. Dickson and Ms. Scholl discussed the process for registry of and removal of persons from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICBCS). Ms. Scholl noted Veterans Administration mental health professionals are unable to add a person to the NICBCS. Dr. Dickson experienced competency cases involving veterans not responsible with finances.

Dr. Dickson thought many of the Nevada bills being considered would not make significant change to mental health. Sheila Leslie suggested the importance of watching the state budget and the federal fiscal changes.

Ms. Allen noted Nevada Senate Bill 261 (SB261) regarding assisted end of life. Ms. Allen shared an email from the Washoe County, Chief Medical Examiner, Laura Knight. Dr. Knight expressed concern because Medical Examiners were not mentioned in SB261, terminal diagnosis as cause of death causes loss of data, and death certificates will be falsified. Dr. Dickson explained the cause of death versus the event leading to death. Dr. Dickson said the medical society will take a neutral position to SB261. Her psychiatry parent organization is opposed to SB261. Dr. Dickson cautioned a person should be evaluated for depression and treated; the person may reconsider their life and not want to die.

6. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE DIRECTOR'S 3RD ANNUAL REPORT DURING THE NEXT LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Misty Allen said she added January 2015 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data and other updates to the Director's Draft Annual Report. Ms. Allen submitted the draft report to the Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness, Bureau Chief for review.

Ms. Allen's focus is updating the State Plan to use as part of a federal grant application to advance the 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention Goal 8, continuity of care, and Goal 9, clinical care. The grant deadline is April 17, 2017. A Southern Nevada and a Northern Nevada group of community partners are helping provide information to write the grant. The grant will be awarded to four states.

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

7. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SUICIDE RATES AND PREVENTION OF DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS, GENDERS AND CULTURES

Richard Egan announced a symposium on September 22, 2017, sponsored by Community Partners on Mental Health, will bring all persons involved with suicide prevention together to work on the National Strategy Goals 8 and 9. The symposium, including a two hour suicide prevention training, will occur the day prior to a conference on opioid addictions.

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

8. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMERGENCY ROOM FOLLOW UP AFTER PATIENT ADMISSION FOR SUICIDE EVENTS

Misty Allen will partner with agencies to collect early hospital discharge and non-admission hospital data related to suicide attempts. Ms. Allen noted the grant application requests funding follow up calls within 24 hours after discharge, includes statewide discharge safety planning, and face to face follow up visits by the Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority (REMSA) and mobile crisis teams. Ms. Allen noted Nevada's current efforts toward fulfilling the 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention Goals 8 and 9. She invited the members to share input related to the grant's scope of work. The grant, if received, would award \$471,000 per year over three years.

Lesley Dickson noted per the Southern Nevada Mental Health Coalition meeting, about 8,400 persons were deemed Legal 2000 calls by Southern Nevada police in 2016. Sheila Leslie noted Legal 2000 events have more than doubled in Northern Nevada the last few years. Ms. Allen noted 85% of the Division of Child and Family Services Mobile Crisis Calls are diverted away from hospital emergency rooms. Dr. Dickson estimated 25-50% of the Legal 2000 calls move on to a psychiatric facility. She noted the lack of residential facilities for those waiting in the hospital emergency rooms. Marlyn Scholl shared an article based on a Danish study of high risk death following psychiatric discharges.

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

9. DISCUSS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS RELATED TO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS TO PREVENT MISCOMMUNICATION AND INACCURATE DATA

Misty Allen said existing databases are being considered for tracking data to support the federal grant application. She announced Cordelia Alexander-Leeder has been chosen to start in June to work on the Washoe County Medical Examiners' data. Ms. Alexander-Leeder will collect data currently missing, such as military status, and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) data. Ms. Alexander-Leeder works part-time at Renown Hospital's emergency department and can offer insight. Another student in the University of Nevada, Masters of Public Health Program is also exploring the topic of emergency discharge.

Ms. Allen reported Nevada has received an implementation grant to begin using the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). She will share the report developed from data of the 18 states currently part of the NVDRS.

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

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

Marlyn Scholl asked for suggested dates for the next meeting. The next teleconferenced meeting was suggested to occur on May 5, 2017 at 9 a.m.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT

Marlyn Scholl asked for public comment. None was heard.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.