

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Richard Whitley, MS
Director



**DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.



Lisa Sherych
Administrator

Ihsan Azzam,
Ph.D., M.D.
Chief Medical Officer

**Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, June 13th, 2022 & Tuesday June 14th, 2022
9:30 a.m. - Adjournment**

Meeting Locations:

Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner
1704 Pinto Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89106

Teleconference:

Dial-In Number 253-215-8782
Meeting ID: 838 4347 4037
Participants Code# 101586

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

Dr. Laura Knight, Chief Medical Examiner and Coroner, Washoe County Regional Medical Examiner's Office
Lesley Dickson, MD, Nevada Psychiatric Association
Fran Maldonado, Tribal Liaison, Division of Child and Family Services
Jamie Elizabeth Ross, Executive Director, PACT Coalition for Safe and Drug-Free Communities
Sheila L. Leslie, MA, Retired, Washoe County Social Services, Consultant, Sagepine Strategies
Allison Zednick, CEO, Desert Parkway, Interim CEO for Reno Behavioral Hospital
Sergeant Chris Kennedy, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, Homicide Section
Terry Kerns, Substance Abuse Law Enforcement Coordinator, Nevada Attorney General's Office
Stacy Holybee, Suicide Prevention Coordinator, VA Medical Center

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

All committee members were present.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF PRESENT

Misty Vaughan Allen, Nevada Statewide Suicide Prevention Coordinator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH), Bureau of Child Family and Community Wellness (BCFCW), Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP)
Richard Egan, Training and Outreach Facilitator, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP
Nick Christie, Administrative Assistant, DPBH-BCFCW-OSP

OTHERS PRESENT

Sharon Benson, Deputy Attorney General
Dr. Jan Gorniak, Coroner Medical Examiner, Clark County Medical Examiner's Office

Kathryn Hooper, Community Resource & Resiliency Center, City of Henderson
Miranda Branson, Overdose to Action Committee
Candace Caterer, Clark County Coroner Office
Lea Case, Community Member
Emma Rodriguez, Overdose to Action Committee

1. ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Misty Vaughan Allen called meeting to order at 9:40 am. All attendees, including members, introduced themselves. A quorum was present.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Laura Knight asked for public comment.

No public comment was heard.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 25, 2022, OPEN MEETING MINUTES.

DR. LAURA KNIGHT ENTERTAINED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 25, 2022, OPEN MEETING. A MOTION TO APPROVE THE OPEN MINUTES WAS MADE BY DR. LESLEY DICKSON. SHEILA LESLIE SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITHOUT PUBLIC COMMENT.

4. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON CURRENT SUICIDE DATA TRENDS IN NEVADA

Richard Egan reviewed the current suicide data trend in Nevada every 15 days, and presented statistics from 2020 and 2021. The data stated that in 2020 62% of suicides are from the use of a firearm along with being 1 of few states to reduce in 2019 and 2020 in suicides. More data was presented to show the increase and decrease amongst different age groups. The age group were: 17 years and under, 18 – 24 years old, 25 – 64 years old, and 65+ years old. A map was presented of the Las Vegas Valley to focus on all the zip codes to see where the trend of suicide is occurring most. Reviewed Maslow’s Hierarchy of Need in reference to resiliency. Dr. Jan Gorniack asked to take a look at the different age groups such as: Gen Z and Gen X and how resiliency is playing a role into these generations. Mr. Egan responded by stating more research is required and be these must be look at more in depth with relation to resiliency. Mr. Egan also referenced the Child Death Review Team that look at specific age groups in 2019 from 16-18 years of age and how electronic devices played a role in suicide for the younger generation. He continued to speak on the various different methods that are being used among the youth to self-harm or to die by suicide. Misty Vaughn Allen chimed in how the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention provided guidance for safe messaging in regard to the Movie Butter and the Play White Rabbit, Red Rabbit. Dr. Laura Knight commented on the topic of gun restriction in city of Las Vegas and question if there is any room for legislative action gun regulations. Mr. Egan responded Dr. Knight with a law that is currently being enforced on individuals with youth in the home. Mr. Egan suggest that the group in the future review suicides by firearms in a more in-depth manner. Terry Kerns asked a question about gun legislation. Mr. Egan responded with reference to gun safety in the law that allows family members and other instances where a firearm can be removed from the home. Shelia Leslie proposed the question if the group can review laws and what other states are doing to prevent suicides by firearm. Mr. Egan proposed the Nevada Office of Suicide Prevention can take a deeper dive into this proposal. Mr. Egan stated that the state of Nevada has a Brady Office that holds to right to remove firearms from individuals and prohibits individuals from purchase a firearm that collaborates with neighboring states. The team agreed to look at laws surrounding firearms in the future. There was no further comments.

5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON AB181 IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Misty Vaughn Allen has a draft of the regulations and is awaiting on some answers before submitting them to the legislative council bureau and move forward with the workshop. Ms. Allen met with Marisa Brown from the Nevada Hospital Association and discussed the intention of the language and not place burden on the providers and hospital. This implantation around follows along the line of the Opioid reporting that is currently mandating. The providers will not have to enter data, but just pull from coding. Will be submitted by June 30th, 2022.

6. INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER REPRESENTING VETERANS

Stacy Holybee introduced herself as a Suicide Prevention Coordinator with VA Sierra Nevada Health System for 10 years.

7. VIEWING OF NEWLY RELEASED PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT VIDEOS ON CRISIS HOLDS

Mr. Egan is presenting two videos on Crisis holds that separates adults from youth to be educational of the process. The state has two different documents for different processes that is changing to notify parents. Ms. Allen chimed on additional documents that can be found on the Behavior Health Policy Board website to help parents and providers be prepared when dealing with a child who is in a crisis hold. Dr. Leslie Dixon asked the question, “How are these videos being sent out and reaching those families and providers?” Ms. Allen responded by stating videos are being pushed all organizations connected with the State of Nevada. Kathryn Hooper chimed in to share that she has been sharing the videos to various organizations and suggested to change some of the ways that people get transported to a hospital who is experiencing a mental health crisis. Ms. Shelia Leslie chimed in about a new effort that will go into effect with the new 988 emergency number, where walk in capability will be in place for individuals can get help. Ms. Leslie suggest discussing these efforts further in the next meeting.

8. DISCUSSION OF CLOSED OPIOID UNDETERMINED DEATH REVIEW PILOT AND OUTCOME REPORT

Ms. Allen stated there have been several discussions to bring in the opioid fatality review to potential combine with the team and creating a pilot to see where the gaps are and how effective are the cases and data. The opioid fatality review was about to generate funding from there grant towards hosting an event on June 14, 2022, with the focus on opioid overdose undetermined deaths with hope to revisit this later down the road.

9. DISCUSS AND MAKE PLANS FOR NEXT UPCOMING COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Egan suggested to move the in-person meeting to a different time that is not at the end of the fiscal year. Jamie Elizabeth Ross suggested to discuss arrest records being publicized in rural areas in Nevada that lead to suicide. Ms. Allen suggested to change the meeting month to either August or September to discuss Firearms, 988 & Crisis Response, implementation of regulations AB181 & SB390, public arrest records. Ms. Ross suggested either August or October since the fiscal year ends in September. Dr. Laura Knight suggested to review compliance across the state with the assessment tool that was developed and determine if that has increased the richness of data that’s available or the impact it as or not with potential to develop into a project.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

A motion to adjourn the open meeting and transition to the closed portion of the review at 11:30am was made and accepted.

The agenda may be viewed on the Internet at the [Nevada State Office of Suicide Prevention website](#), and the [Nevada Public Notice website](#). Written comments in excess of one (1) typed page on any agenda item requiring a vote are respectfully requested to be submitted to the Committee to Review Suicide Fatalities (CRSF) at the below address prior to the meeting to ensure adequate consideration is given to the material.

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who have a disability and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Nick Christie, staff to the CRSF in writing by email at n.christie@health.nv.gov, by mail at Nevada State Office of Suicide Prevention, 4600 Kietzke Lane, B-114, Reno, NV 89502 or by calling (775) 684-2237 before the meeting date.

If you need supporting documents for this meeting, please notify Nick Christie, Nevada State Office of Suicide Prevention at (775) 684-2237 or by email at n.christie@health.nv.gov. Supporting materials are available for the public on the [Nevada State Office of Suicide Prevention website](#) and at the following locations:

4600 Kietzke Lane, B-114, Reno, NV 89502

3811 West Charleston Blvd., Suite 210, Las Vegas, Nevada 89102