



"Saving Lives in Tennessee"

Tennessee Farmers Suicide Prevention Task Force

Mission/goal:

This task force, an appointed task force created and approved by the TSPN Advisory Council on April 5, 2018, will hereto partner with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture. With this partnership, the Task Force will work to proactively address the issue of suicide in Tennessee. The task force will meet to create and carry out action items to best help the at-risk population of Farmers. By employing the expertise of those listed to below, to be invited to this initial task force, it is the hope that this effort will expand to other entities throughout the state, creating atmospheres of safety and suicide awareness for Tennessee's Farmers.

17 Appointed Member Task Force:

Co-chair: Carol Coley McDonald, Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Assistant Commissioner, Policy and Legislation

Co-chair: Scott Ridgway, TSPN Executive Director

1. Centerstone- Lee Fields Wambles, Criminal Justice, Liason Coordinator
2. Farm Animal Care Coalition of Tennessee- Lou Nave, Executive Director
3. Farm Credit- Scott Lewis, Relationship Manager
4. Middle Tennessee State University- Dr. Chaney Mosley, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Education
5. Tennessee Cattlemen's Association- Charles Hord, Executive Vice President
6. Tennessee Dairy Producers Association- Stan Butt, Executive Director
7. Tennessee Farm Bureau representative- Dan Strasser, Director of Special Programs
8. Tennessee Farmer's Co-op- Ryan King, Event and Marketing Coordinator
9. Tennessee Pork Producer's- Phyllis Ferguson, Executive Vice President
10. Tennessee Poultry Association- Dale Barnett, Executive Director
11. Tennessee Soybean Association- Richard Jameson, Member of TN Soybean Promotion Board
12. Tennessee State University- Lauren Kennedy, Ph.D, Extension Services
13. Tennessee State University- Finis Stribling III, Extension Services
14. Tennessee State University- Jennifer Goodrich, Extension Services
15. University of Tennessee- Dr. Emily Paskewitz, Assistant Professor, School of Communication Studies
16. University of Tennessee Extension- Dr. Heather Wallace, Assistant Professor, Family and Consumer Sciences
17. University of Tennessee Extension- Ms. Mary Beth Henley, Franklin Co. Director & Ext. Agent III

TSPN Staff: Joanne Perley, Director of Statewide Initiatives and Development