



"Saving Lives in Tennessee"

**Higher Education Task Force Meeting
Friday, February 1, 2019
TSPN Central Office
446 Metroplex Drive, Suite A-224
Nashville, TN 37211
10:00 AM Central**

Minutes

Task Members Present

Sandra Perley, EdD, MSN, RN, Columbia State Community College, Co-chair
Scott Ridgway, MS, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network, Co-chair
Mary Kaye G. Anderson, Psy.D.-HSP, Middle Tennessee State University
Susan Elswick, EdD, University of Memphis
Tricia Henderson, LPC-MHSP, UT Chattanooga
Christina Mick, EdD, TN Tech University
Kelly Rubin, LPC, MAC, University of Tennessee at Knoxville
Janet Turner, PhD, LPC-MHSP, NCC, ACS, Lindsey Wilson College
Denise Walker, MS, LPC, Northeast State Community College
John'Na Webster, MSW, University of Tennessee at Martin
Kristina Waymire, Tennessee Board of Regents

TSPN Staff

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

Task Members Absent

Jennifer Catlett, LCSW, Carson-Newman University
Lou Hanemann, Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Cheryl Hyland, Ed.D., Motlow State Community College
Christian Lockhart, Pellissippi State Community College
Andrea Mills, Med, LPC-MHSP, Lipscomb University
Leslie Reed Brietenmoser, PhD, MSN, RN, Austin Peay State University
Caryn Schmitz, MA, NCC, LPC-MHSP, Baptist College of Health
Katy Wilson, APRN, MSN, MBA, Belmont University

Welcome and Introductions

- Co-chair Dr. Perley welcomed all to the meeting at 10:10am and thanked all for their attendance.
- Co-chair Dr. Perley asked those present to introduce themselves with their name, institution they represent, and role within their institution.

- **Co-chair Dr. Perley asked for review of the minutes from the August meeting. Elswick motioned to approve the minutes, Henderson with seconding. Minutes approved.**
- Co-chair Ridgway provided a TSPN Update:
 - The next Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for February 13th, Goodwill Career Center, 937 Herman St, Nashville, TN 37208. Ridgway informed the group that Commissioners Williams has been invited. TSPN has also extended an invitation to the Governor-elect.
 - Last Friday on the front page of the Tennessean there was an article about the Natchez Trace Parkway Bridge (NTPB), A (NTPB) Barrier Committee has been formed to focus on a barrier on the bridge due to the 32 deaths by suicides. Ridgway is Co-Chair of this committee.
 - The second meeting of the Farmers Suicide Prevention Task Force took place in January 28th.
 - Tennessee Violent Death Advisory Committee held its first meeting Friday, January 4th to discuss the TNVDRS Overview in our state and how the process will work. Also continue to work with the development and roll out of the Adult Suicide Death Review.
 - TSPN closed out the first six-month reports for the state. Training over 18,191 in all curricula including general awareness presentations, QPR, ASIST, suicide2Hope, and many more.
 - Ridgway met with Joseph Williams- Governors transition team member on Wednesday, 1/2/19 about TSPN and the rise of Youth suicide and need for funding for suicide prevention.
 - Status of Suicide Report is in your packets with press release.
 - TSPN is updating all our brochures/Flyers and will approved by the AC in February.
 - Tennessee applying for the new Garrett Lee Smith grant due in the coming weeks, as the current five-year GLS grant will end September 2019.

Presentation of Accomplishments

- Co-chair Ridgway recognized each member of the task force that have served from the beginning of the task force in partnership with TSPN and for the amazing work that this group has accomplished.
- Co-chair Perley presented a presentation of the accomplishments of the task force and highlighted how to move forward.

Committee Meetings

- I. **The committee presented the following tasks in order to launch and disseminate the documents and information from the task force to higher education institutions:** Mick, Elswick, Waymire, Webster, Walker, Turner
 - TSPN will complete a press release for the accomplishments of the task force and dissemination of the achievements, documents, etc. It was also recommended a social media plan be made and launch party organized. The creation of a YouTube video to launch was recommended.

- The selection/nomination of a TSPN Higher Education Liaison for each institution was recommended, with each campus annually selecting an individual with the support of a regional representative to assist with QPR trainings, sharing of resources, etc. to include task force members.
- Physical letter shall be mailed to Presidents, Dean of Students, Vice Presidents of Academic Affairs as well as leaders in athletic departments. Email letters and documents will be provided to others with a focus on follow up and continued engagement. The investment of leadership, including a possible Presidents challenge as well as student groups were discussed to create consistent engagement.
- Creation of the ‘Tennessee Suicide Prevention Campuses,’ similar to Veteran Safe and other Safe Space initiatives. In order for an institution to be accepted/enrolled, the institution must have a protocol including prevention/intervention/postvention, info on their institution website, a percentage trained in QPR (will be in levels at 2%, 5%, and 10%) with 2% being the minimum participant. Encouraging involvement and competition and recognition!
- **Rubin motioned for approval of the Suicide Prevention Higher Education Launch materials statewide; Anderson seconded, and the motion passed without objection.**

II. **With growing numbers of attempts and deaths by suicide in this age group, the group decided to pursue legislation as outlined by Co-chair Perley’s presentation:**
Brietenmoser, Anderson, Henderson, Rubin

- a. The group edited the draft legislation compiled provided by staff and reviewed by Co-chair Dr. Perley:
 - i. Include training for crisis responders/security in critical incident training
 - ii. To be distributed in good faith
 - iii. Review plan every two years
 - iv. To be reviewed by task force member Hanemann
- **Elswick motioned for approval of the Suicide Prevention Higher Education Legislation; Turner seconded, and the motion passed without objection.**
 - TSPN will reach out to THEC and TBR to see their interest, involvement, recommendations or any suggested edits before approval at the full Advisory Council meeting, February 13th.
 - Waymire will help facilitate legislation with TBR government relations staff.

Goals Moving Forward for the Ad Hoc Higher Education Task Force

- Co-chair Ridgway, thanks everyone for completing the task set out from the beginning, He recommended to the group that the Task Force serve as an Ad Hoc committee with the approval of this group.
- **Henderson motioned for approval of the Task Force serve as an Ad Hoc committee as needed; Turner seconded, and the motion passed without objection.**
- Meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm by Co-chair Dr. Perley.