



*"Saving Lives in Tennessee"*

**Higher Education Task Force Meeting  
Friday, May 11, 2018  
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  
Denise Bates-Fredi, PhD, CHES, Middle Tennessee State University  
Leslie Reed Brietenmoser, PhD, MSN, RN, Austin Peay State University  
Lou Hanemann, Tennessee Higher Education Commission  
Tricia Henderson, LPC-MHSP, UT Chattanooga  
Mani Hull, EdD, TN Campus Compact  
Christian Lockhart, Pellissippi State Community College  
Caryn Schmitz, MA, NCC, LPC-MHSP, Baptist College of Health  
Denise Walker, MS, LPC, Northeast State Community College  
John'Na Webster, MSW, University of Tennessee at Martin

#### **TSPN Staff**

Joanne Perley, MPH, TSPN Staff, Middle TN Regional Coordinator

#### **Task Members Absent**

Jennifer Catlett, LCSW, Carson-Newman University  
Susan Elswick, EdD, University of Memphis  
Shea Kidd Houze, Ph.D., University of Tennessee at Knoxville  
Christina Mick, EdD, TN Tech University  
Andrea Mills, Med, LPC-MHSP, Lipscomb University  
Theresa Okwumabua, PhD, LeMoyne-Owens  
Byron Pickens, PhD, Argosy University  
Janet Turner, PhD, LPC-MHSP, NCC, ACS, Lindsey Wilson College  
Kristina Waymire, Tennessee Board of Regents  
Katy Wilson, APRN, MSN, MBA, Belmont University

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

- Co-chair Dr. Perley welcomed all to the meeting at 10:21am 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 Ridgway thanked those for participating in the task force on behalf of the Advisory Council.
- **Co-chair Dr. Perley asked for review of the minutes from the February meeting. Hanemann motioned to approve the minutes, with Reed-Brietenmoser seconding. Minutes approved.**

## **TSPN Report**

Co-chair Ridgway provided information on statistics requested as well as TSPN updates:

- Co-chair Ridgway recognized J. Perley as staff person for the Task Force and also thanked those who wished him well wishes following the passing of his Mother.
- Status of the Suicide Report, with statistics from the Department of Health, released information in December with the 2016 statistics. 2017 stats will be released by the end of June with preliminary data for 2018 perhaps being released in December.
- Approximately 325 people attended on April 11 in Nashville. Feedback from the symposium highlighted by the powerful remarks given by Thomas Joiner during our keynote address. Participants were also asked to evaluate the symposium at large: The involvement of so many different agencies and backgrounds at this event, as well as our guests' enthusiastic response to our breakout sessions, profoundly demonstrates the public's continuing support of our suicide prevention efforts.
- TSPN staff attended the American Association of Suicidology Conference in Washington D.C., 4/16/18-4/21/18. Leitsch and Ridgway presented a session on Zero Suicide with Centerstone Research Institute and Mental Health Cooperative.
- TSPN staff attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Rally to Prevent Suicide while in DC, which was held at the steps of the Capital. 2.4 billion dollars is funding for the Ebola crisis (lost 1 person to Ebola) while 1.3 million (lose 45,000) and it costs 93.5 billion is the cost for suicides and suicide attempts (this includes lost productivity, etc.).
- The TSPN Advisory Council retreat is scheduled on June 6-7 at Montgomery Bell State Park. TDMHSAS Commissioner Marie Williams has been invited.
  - Gubernatorial Candidates have been reached engaged, to speak to the Advisory Council, as a panel, on how they would support suicide prevention.
- The Middle Tennessee Regional Coordinator Position is currently open and is accepting applications; anyone interested please email [tspn@tspn.org](mailto:tspn@tspn.org).
- The Suicide Prevention Act of 2018 has passed both the Senate and the House, Press releases from the Senate and TSPN were email last week.
- License Plate bill passes and bill states. "The funds produced from the sale of Suicide Prevention new specialty earmarked license plates shall be allocated to the Mental Health Association of Middle Tennessee in accordance with § 55-4-215. Such funds shall be used exclusively to support the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network and the organization's suicide prevention programs and activities in this state."
- Veterans and Suicide Prevention Task Force will be forming soon. This task force will come up with strategies, focusing only on suicide prevention, intervention and postvention for our Veterans and their families.

- The Department of Agriculture has engaged since the close of the general assembly, and the list of names is being vested, and the Farmers and Suicide Prevention Task Force will be announced soon.
- The Tennessee Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Division of Mental Health, Office of Crisis Services and Suicide Prevention has scheduled a program monitoring visit for fiscal year 2018 on June 4, 2018 on all of TSPN contracts.
- The Netflix series “13 Reasons Why” season 2 will be release on May the 18<sup>th</sup>. TSPN will have a press release to go out in coordination of this series release. There are numerous online resources to accompany the series, in stark contrast to the original season, that will be highlighted in the press release.

### **Committee Meetings**

- Co-chair Dr. Perley provided information on the new finding of the Massachusetts Supreme Court, featuring a family versus MIT.
- Those present in each Task Force Committee met to discuss goals, action items, and progress made since the December meeting with a focus on what would like to be accomplished prior to the May meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Advocacy and Sustainability Committee**

- Hanemann and committee suggested, while waiting on the upcoming legislative session, to create edits to the resolution in coordination with the development of press releases/op-eds, etc. to coincide with the release of 2017 and 2018 statistics, as was addressed by Ridgway. The committee also suggested the involvement, and written support, of higher education institutions as well as governing boards towards the efforts of the task force. With this coordinated support and simulations awareness, the task force will be most prepared for the resolution and a budgetary request.
  - **Action Items:** Fine tuning resolution through shaping the context of messaging as well as rethinking the budget ask and what we want to accomplish, to be informed by the other committees with the protocol and outreach efforts. Also, to compose a letter of support and recognition for all institutions to sign towards the Task Force efforts.

#### **Protocol Committee**

- Henderson and committee plan to set up the protocol as a toolkit, for review and approval at the August 2<sup>nd</sup> Task Force meeting. This toolkit will include prevention/intervention/postvention information for ease of access and use in instructions. Co-chair Dr. Perley will compose a graphic/introduction for the toolkit.
- A discussion was held addressing concerns over legal ramifications and possible FERPA regulations. From this conversation, Hanemann will reach out to key stakeholders in Tennessee with expertise on this issue, to answer questions brought by the Task Force.
  - **Action Items:** Have toolkit, covering prevention/intervention/postvention draft prepared prior to August 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

#### **Outreach Committee**

- Edits continue of the document provided, with additions of syllabus samples, TCATs, and a sample Peer Advocacy training.
- Walker asked for more sample MOUs that they use to be added to the document for templates.
- The committee asked J. Perley to create a page on the TSPN website for Higher Education and the work done by the Task Force.
- **Henderson motioned to accept the concept of the Outreach document present, with edits provided to TSPN Central Office prior to June 4<sup>th</sup>. Schmitz seconded.**
  - *Action Items*: Edits continue of the document provided, with additions of syllabus samples, TCATs, and a sample Peer Advocacy training as well as looking towards other outreach goals to be pursued by the Task Force, including but not limited to September events bringing higher education institutions together for the month as suicide prevention awareness month.

### **Timeline for Goals**

- Hanemann will utilize his contacts to pursue possible speakers for the August 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- J. Perley will send out minutes to all Task Force members as well as an additional email to each committee with information, action items to be completed in each committee moving forward, and doodle poll to schedule committee meetings in March via conference call.

### **Goals for Next Meeting**

- Meeting adjourned at 1:45pm by Co-chair Dr. Perley.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, August 2, 2018, 10am-2pm at TSPN Central Office**