Aligning National Efforts to Prevent Suicide

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Overview:

- The nation’s public-private partnership for suicide prevention
- National suicide prevention resources
The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention

The Nation’s Public-Private Partnership for Suicide Prevention
We are...

the nation’s public-private partnership for suicide prevention.

We engage more than 250 public and private organizations to advance implementation of the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention
TOGETHER we can do so much.
Mission:
- **Champion** suicide prevention as a national priority.
- **Catalyze** efforts to implement high-priority objectives from the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention*.
- **Cultivate** the resources needed to sustain progress.

Goal:
- To reduce annual suicide rate **20 percent** by **2025**.
We are committed to advancing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention
Executive Committee Co-chairs:

- **Public Sector:**
  Dr. Carolyn M. Clancy
  Executive in Charge, Veterans Health Administration
  U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

- **Private Sector:**
  Mr. Robert W. Turner
  Senior Vice President – Retired
  Union Pacific Corporation
The National Public-Private Partnership for Suicide Prevention
Prioritized Research Agenda:
NSSP Objective 12.1: Develop a national suicide prevention research agenda.

Key Question 1: Why do people become suicidal?
Key Question 2: How can we better or more optimally detect/predict risk?
Key Question 3: What interventions prevent individuals from engaging in suicidal behavior?
Key Question 4: What services are most effective for treating the suicidal person and prevention suicidal behavior?
Key Question 5: What other types of interventions (outside health care settings) reduce suicide risk?
Key Question 6: What new and existing research infrastructure is needed to reduce suicidal behavior?
Suicide Prevention Research Portfolio Analyses

NSSP Objective 12.2: Disseminate the national suicide prevention research agenda, inventory funded suicide research.
The average annual combined investment in suicide research is $71.6 million per year (between 2008-2013), inclusive of Army STARRS ($60.8 million excluding Army STARRS)

The Action Alliance is committed to:

- Reaching at-risk populations (e.g., American Indian/Alaska Native, veterans and military servicemembers, suicide attempt survivors, and survivors of suicide loss)
- Engaging individuals with lived experience to inform and enhance future prevention strategies

“For too long the voice of millions of suicide attempt survivors, like myself, and the value of our experience has been discounted. Now we have come together to provide what could be the most meaningful and impactful contributors to reducing suicide- lived experience”

- Eduardo Vega (Co-Lead, Action Alliance Suicide Attempt Survivor Task Force)
Transforming Health Systems

NSSP GOAL 8. Promote suicide prevention as a core component of health care.

We bring together national leaders and implement strategies to improve:

- Acute care transitions
- Standards of care
- Clinical workforce preparedness
- Crisis services
- Financing
- Zero Suicide

“Over the decades, individual (mental health) clinicians have made heroic efforts to save lives...but system of care have done very little”

Dr. Richard McKeon
Zero Suicide Initiative

NSSP Objective 8.1: Promote the adoption of “zero suicides” as an aspirational goal by health care and community support systems that provide services and support to defined patient populations.

The Action Alliance launched, and is now scaling up implementation of, the Zero Suicide initiative an evidence-informed quality improvement approach to improving suicide care in health and behavioral health care systems.

“What Suicide represents a worst case failure in mental health care. We must work to make it a ‘never event in our programs and systems of care’”

- Dr. Mike Hogan

zerosuicide.sprc.org
Changing the Conversation

NSSP GOAL 4. Promote responsible media reporting of suicide, accurate portrayals of suicide and mental illnesses in the entertainment industry, and the safety of online content related to suicide.

We leverage news reporters, entertainment industry representatives, and suicide prevention messengers to change the national narratives around suicide and suicide prevention to ones that promote:

- Hope
- Connectedness
- Social support
- Resilience
- Treatment
- Recovery
Transforming Communities

NSSP Goal 1. Integrate and coordinate suicide prevention activities across multiple sectors and settings.

We support suicide prevention efforts to reach individuals at risk who are not engaged with the health system. We engage faith community leaders, workplaces, and other community settings to be part of the community suicide prevention response.
Suicide Prevention Resources
Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR)

Core Competencies for Behavioral Health Professionals
Suicide Prevention Resources

• 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress.
• Prevention and crisis resources.
• Best practices for professionals.
Suicide Prevention Resources

Local/State Suicide Prevention Coordinators

http://www.sprc.org/states
The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) is the nation’s only federally supported resource center devoted to advancing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention. SPRC is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
Connect with the Action Alliance

www.actionallianceforsuicideprevention.org