

DEKALB COUNTY COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

SUICIDE PROGRAMMING AD HOC COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

May 26, 2021

Approved

Committee Members Present: Jennie Geltz, Laurie Emmer, Jane Smith, Meghan Cook

Other Persons Present:

Office staff: Deanna Cada, Kathy Ostdick

1. Call to Order

Ms. Geltz called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Ms. Ostdick called attendance. Committee members present were Jennie Geltz, Meghan Cook, Laurie Emmer, Jane Smith. Quorum was met.

2. Approval of the agenda

Ms. Cook moved to approve the agenda; seconded by Ms. Emmer. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

3. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Emmer moved to approve the minutes of the 3/10/21 Suicide Programming Ad Hoc Committee; seconded by Ms. Cook. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

4. Old Business

A. Suicide Programming

- I. NIU Student Project update – Ms. Cada shared information about the two NIU student groups that she is working with. Group 1 came up with really good ideas for getting the word out to people needing help. Group 2 did research into suicide groups like QPR, Safe Talk, etc., that could provide information but they recommended getting to people before a suicide takes place, like with a family member.

B. Community Programming

- I. Toolkit Opportunity/QR Code – Ms. Cada shared with the Committee that our last intern, Vinh Le, had access to 19 different groups that showed having suicide issues and toolkits for each specific group. Ms. Cada suggested that these 19 toolkits be put on our website with the availability of also getting hard copies of the information. Ms. Cada then asked what the next step was.
- II. Current Programming from partner agencies – Ms. Cada told the Committee that several agencies talked about how difficult it was to get into the schools. She said they also talked about it being difficult to get into places other than schools and get information to parents.

C. Messaging – Communication Plan development – Ms. Cada said that this topic will be on the agenda all the time if Committee members have thoughts on access and immediate help.

D. QPR Status – Ms. Cada purchased 600 slots from QPR for the Community.

E. Community Training Opportunity – The Committee discussed hosting an event in September. 9/10/21 is Suicide Awareness Day. The Committee discussed several dates for the event. Ms. Cada said we could hold the event at the Egyptian Theatre and roll out the documentary and QPR slots.

F. Agriculture Population – The Farm Bureau has put together a help line.

G. Crisis App Discussion – Ms. Cada talked about a Crisis app and will do some investigating into this app.

5. New Business

A. Facts and Statistics – Ms. Cada talked to the Committee about a website/professor from the conference Deanna attended recently.

B. American Association of Suicidology Conference Report – Ms. Cada gave a report on the American Association of Suicidology Conference that she attended.

6. Date of next Suicide Programming Ad Hoc Committee meeting

Next meeting will be June 23, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

7. Adjournment

Ms. Geltz moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm; seconded by Ms. Emmer. The motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie Geltz, Committee Chair

Kathy Ostidick, Recording Secretary