



"Saving Lives in Tennessee"

**Executive Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 25, 2016
8 AM Central / 9 AM Eastern
Call-in number: (605) 477-2100
Access code: 403540#**

Minutes

Members Present

Anne Young, MS, CAS, Program Director, Young Adult and Residential Relapse Recovery Program, Cornerstone of Recovery (Advisory Council Chair)
Anne Stamps, Center Director, Cumberland Mountain Mental Health Center/Dale Hollow Mental Health Center (Advisory Council Co-Chair)
Jack Stewart, MA, President, NAMI Greene County (Advisory Council Secretary)
Adam Graham, LPC-MHSP, Supervisor of Diversion Services, Mental Health Cooperative (Advisory Council Co-Secretary)

Members Absent

Tim Tatum, MA, LPC-MHSP, Director of Behavioral Health, Pine Ridge Treatment Center (Advisory Council Past Chair)

TSPN Staff

Vladimir Enlow, MTS, Executive Assistant, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network
Scott Ridgway, MS, Executive Director, Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network

Proceedings

- Young called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM.
- Ridgway was delayed as he was currently involved with a school postvention operation.

Children's Firearm Safety Alliance (CFSA) / MaKayla's Law

- The Committee reviewed a recent proposal to endorse CFSA, a new national initiative addressing the number of children injured and killed in incidents resulting from unsecured guns. This coalition of physicians, lawmakers, law enforcement officers, and gun violence prevention organizations will focus on reducing the number of unintentional shootings involving children with access to loaded, unsecured firearms through policy advocacy, legislation, education, and research.
 - Beth Joslin Roth, Executive Director of the Safe Tennessee Project, had communicated with Ridgway about possible involvement with CFSA in advance of the re-introduction of MaKayla's Law (which would make it a felony for gun owners to leave a gun loaded and accessible to a child) to the General Assembly. (Ridgway serves on the Safe Tennessee Project's Advisory Board.)
- While the premise of the group sounds solid, Committee members noted that several objectives of CFSA are unrelated to suicide prevention.
- Members of the Committee supported some, but not all CFSA's objectives, and generally felt as if they could not offer their full endorsement of the initiative at this time, and would convey as much to Joslin.

- **Motion was made by Young not to endorse the Children’s Firearm Safety Alliance. Stewart seconded, and there were no objections.**

3-Star Health Advocacy

- Ridgway recapped the discussion about the 3-Star Healthy Pilot that Tom Starling presented at the last Advisory Council meeting.
 - He summarized how a task force commissioned by Governor Haslam and chaired by Speaker of the House Beth Harwell created the pilot as an alternative to the Affordable Care Act. Phase 1 would provide insurance coverage to veterans and people with mental illness. Phase 2 would extend it to the general population if sustainability goals are met.
- Ridgway recapped his meeting with Michael McRay, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Tennessee Justice Center, on areas where TSPN could support 3-Star pending the Executive Committee’s approval:
 - Writing a formal letter from TSPN that could be sent either to all legislators, or specifically to each target senator
 - Issuing a call for stories/testimonies of family members who’ve lost a loved one to suicide (Ridgway conceded that this might prove difficult)
 - Including 3-Star advocacy for the Day on the Hill event
- The Task Force announced that it would like to take up the issue of 3-Star before the General Assembly reconvenes.
- The Committee suggested other approaches TSPN could take to promote 3-Star, such as newsletter profiles and Constant Contact updates.
- Members of the Executive Committee were overall supportive of the pilot program and the recommendations offered.
- **A motion was made by Stamps to support and promote the adoption of the 3-Star Healthy Pilot by the General Assembly of Tennessee. Graham seconded the motion, which passed without objection.**

Anne Young’s Vision for TSPN

- Young outlined her vision for action during the next two years of her term as Chair:
 - Reduction in the overall numbers and rates of suicide in Tennessee
 - Increased support by the Advisory Council for the TSPN Executive Director and the Regional Coordinators
 - More frequent meetings of the Executive Committee, primarily by conference call but also in person as the opportunity permits
 - Demonstration of more outcomes and make the most efficient use of TSPN staff ahead of the next gubernatorial administration

TSPN Updates

- Ridgway noted plans to invite newly appointed TDMHSAS Commissioner Marie Williams to the next Advisory Council meeting, planned for February 8.
- Members discussed possible revival of the Ken and Madge Tullis Suicide Prevention Act. Stewart mentioned a scheduled meeting with Rep. Jeremy Faison, during which he will propose the latter’s sponsorship of the bill in the House.
 - Ridgway anticipated that even with a possible leadership change in the state Senate, TSPN can probably still count Past Chair Tim Tatum securing support from Deputy Pro Tem Bo Watson. The Network can consider its next steps after we confirm Faison’s intentions.
 - Historically the group which has shown the most opposition to the bill is the Tennessee Psychological Association, which argues against the additional licensure requirements. Ridgway recommended that this version of the bill not include psychologists among those subject to the licensure requirements. This change was generally favored by the Committee.

- Ridgway brought up the option of working with the individual licensure boards for social workers, LMFTs, LADACs, and occupational therapists to persuade them to adopt the new licensure requirements themselves, negating the need for any formal legislation.
- Graham mentioned having contacts within the LPC board and offered his assistance to Ridgway to act on this suggestion.
 - Young offered to approach a contact of hers on the LADAC board.

Scheduling of Future Calls

- Young recommended holding monthly calls for updates and continuation of momentum, at about this same time next month—i.e., the fourth Tuesday.
- Enlow pointed out that the fourth Tuesday of November (the 22nd) falls two days before the Thanksgiving holiday. The group decided to meet on the 15th instead, with the call starting at 8 AM Central / 9 AM Eastern.
 - During this call, the Committee could decide on scheduling a call for December or waiting until January.
- The next Advisory Council meeting is set for Wednesday, February 8, at a location to be determined.
 - The Community Room at the Hermitage Precinct is booked, and the other precincts are either booked or logistically unsuitable.
 - Ridgway suggested that the Executive Committee could meet ahead of the other Committees, which themselves meet prior to the main business meeting.

Objectives Ahead of the Next Meeting

- Development of plans for promotion of the 3-Star Healthy Pilot by TSPN.
- Formal communications to the Safe Tennessee Project articulating that TSPN will not endorse CFSA.
- Stewart will meet with Faison regarding House sponsorship of the Tullis Act. Ridgway will follow up with Tatum about communications with Watson regarding support within the Senate given Faison's agreement to sponsor.
- Ridgway, with Graham's assistance, will contact state licensure boards about including suicide prevention training requirements.
- Formal invitation of Williams to the next Advisory Council meeting.
- Preparation of a written TSPN update ahead of the next meeting, to be submitted along with the agenda for review by the Executive Committee. The Committee may ask questions or make comments on the update during the meeting proper.

Adjournment

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:51 AM.
- The next conference call will take place on **8 AM Central / 9 AM Eastern on Tuesday, November 15**, using call-in number **(605) 477-2100** and access code **403540#**.