

**CAPE AND ISLANDS SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION  
MEETING NOTES  
March 11, 2010**

**Mission**  
To increase suicide awareness and prevention.  
**AWARENESS. EDUCATION. ACTION.**

**Present:**

Tim Lineaweaver, Community Health Center	Beverly Costa-Ciavola, CC Neighborhood Support Coalition
Beth Albert – Barnstable County Human Services	Maura Weir, Youth Suicide Grant Project Mgr.
Kathie Callahan, Barnstable County Human Services	Mark Abbott, Falmouth Human Services
Steve Jochim, DMH	Maura Wilson, Samaritans of Cape Cod
Patrick Wendell, Wendell Marketing	Larry Fox, To Your Good Health
Sally-Anne Imes, Town of Barnstable Youth Services	Paul Wild, Elder Services
Jenny Garneau, DMH, Community Organizer - Nantucket	David Munsell, NAMI
Charleen Greenhalgh, Town of Truro	Arthur Bence, South Shore Mental Health/Bayview Associates
Susan Travers, Truro Council on Aging	Steve Ryan, Dept. of Children & Families
Gail Wilson, Mashpee Human Services	Leslie Moreland, MSPCC

Unable to attend: Katie McMakin, Scott Fitzmaurice

**Approval of February Meeting Notes:** Beth Albert motioned, seconded by Beverly Costa-Ciavola to accept the February meeting notes as written. Motion unanimously approved.

**Fiscal Report:** Not available. Beverly reported there is approximately \$20,000 in the account to date.

**Steering Committee Report:** Beth Albert reported that the S/C met on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at CIGSYA. She noted the S/C had sent a letter to the Mass Coalition for Suicide Prevention raising concerns regarding restrictions for the C&I SPC if they jointed the MCSP. Although there was no response to the letter Beth did have a conversation with a member of their Executive Committee who noted that they are working on putting policies and procedures in place, however, no stringent policies are in place at this time as they continue to sort through several issues. The C&I SPC will continue to move forward with our strategic plan at this time.

The SPC will be holding the first of its quarterly community forums on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> from 6 - 8 pm at the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth. Host of this event is Mindy Todd and keynote speaker will be Brent Runyon, author of the Burn Journals. Anyone wishing to attend should RSVP ASAP to Kathie at Tel: 508/375-6628 or kcallahan@barnstablecounty.org.

**Working Group Updates:**

- **Elders:** Gail Wilson - Questionnaire to identify resources and gaps for gatekeepers who take care of elders. The questionnaire was also forwarded to Ben Caswell, Wendell Marketing. Group will develop a resource kit for distribution to providers. Next meeting is scheduled for March 23, 1:00 Pm at Mashpee Human Services, 11 Cape Dr. in Mashpee.
- **Education/Training:** Maura Weir would like to joint this group. Maura also noted that as she is preparing budgets she would like some idea of what the SPC’s budget is for training/education so she can budget match \$\$ in her Youth Project budget. Paul Wild also spoke about the Elder video from the Samaritans and suggested it be viewed at an upcoming SPC meeting.
- **Marketing:** Beth Albert reported that group met on March 10<sup>th</sup> and discussed the recent slate of “bad press” surrounding completed suicides. There is planning underway to visit local newspapers to discuss the guidelines of reporting stories of this nature. The committee has drafted a letter that will be sent to the Associated Press regarding their reporting of a recent

suicide and cc: to state Coalition and national suicide groups. The Marketing Committee will monitor media reporting of suicides and when necessary will follow up with a letter to the offending party when media reports do not follow the CDC media reporting guidelines.

There has and will be media coverage for the 3/15 community forum. Group is discussing publication of new print materials on the subject of suicide & prevention. Beth noted that Coalition members who are having suicide related events should forward the information to Beth & Tim who will review and forward to Wendell Marketing to maximize event P.R. She also noted that it is important to publicize after events are held to get the word of the good works being done into the community. Next meeting is scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM at Wendell Marketing.

- **Youth:** Jenny Garneau reported that meeting has been postponed to April 14<sup>th</sup> @ 3:30 at CIGSYA.
- **Advocacy:** (Bill Doherty) no report available.
- **Fundraising:** No report.

It was noted that there is no working group for age group 34-60 yrs. Beverly and Katherine Wernier are willing to co-chair.

May is mental health awareness month. Steve Jochim will arrange for the DMH commissioner to attend our May meeting.

**Youth Suicide Prevention Plan – Maura Weir:** Maura presented on the goals and objectives for the C&I Youth Suicide prevention project – Action Plan 2010-2012. Goals include: 1) Promote awareness, improve accessibility to information about youth suicide/prevention and increase help-seeking by youth at risk, 2) Improve identification and referral of youth who could benefit from services, 3) Promote protective factors and increase resilience for at-risk youth, 4) Enhance postvention and support services to those affected by suicide or suicide attempts, 5) Ensure sustainability of youth suicide prevention projects within the community after the life of the grant, 6) Improve and expand surveillance system and reporting of youth suicides to the state level. Maura reviewed the objectives for each of these goals as well as the next steps of the project. For more information or a copy of the power point presentation contact Maura @ mweir@chcofcapecod.org.

Maura noted that the cyber bullying training on March 9<sup>th</sup> was well attended. She also met with NAMI. They will be asked to do a presentation for the SPC.

Maura is currently working on evaluation and plan for the next 2 years for the Youth Suicide Project for DMH. There will be 8 people from Samaritans sent to New Hampshire for suicide bereavement training. Maura stressed the importance of mandatory reporting statewide for suicide attempts and completions in order to get better data surrounding this issue.

#### **New Business:**

- Beth Albert announced that she has resigned as Director for the Barnstable County Dept. of Human Services effective 3/30/10.
- Beverly Costa-Ciavola: 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Clothesline Concert on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 PM at Nauset Regional High School Auditorium. Benefit for the Clothesline Project in its volunteer effort to educate and raise awareness concerning domestic violence. For more info call 508/896-1875 or go to [www.clotheslineproject.org](http://www.clotheslineproject.org)

**Meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM. Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 8, 2010 @ the Barnstable Superior Courthouse, Rms 11/12.**

**DMH Crisis Team hotline # is 1-800-322-1356**