

**Washtenaw Alive
Minutes
Friday, March 4, 2011**

- I. Present: Michelle Rose Armstrong, Karyn Boyce, Edwina Jarrett, Quinn LaPeer, Michelle Rivett, Stephanie Salazar
- II. Garrett Lee Smith RFP
 - a. Youth Leadership: Karyn reported that there are 6 core members in the youth advisory committee (Suicide A.L.E.R.T.) from Green Hills, Lincoln, and Milan Schools. She also mentioned that Ozone House includes talking about Suicide ALERT activities when they provide their presentation on crisis in middle and high schools.
 - b. Discussion ensued about the possibility of the Depression Center and Ozone House working together to coordinate with Ypsilanti Schools.
 - c. Karyn also asked the WA group for contacts and connections to teachers in middle and high schools for providing their crisis presentations.
 - d. The next meeting is March 10th, 4:00 p.m., at Stone School
 - e. The Social Media Club from U of M has adopted the Suicide ALERT to help train and prepare media campaign.
 - f. Suicide ALERT is also holding a logo contest for this committee.
 - g. Face Book and Twitter activities continue.
 - h. Other places that they plan to advertise their group is at schools with posters and on school announcements.
 - i. Training (Michelle)
 - i. SafeTALK4T is on March 14 & 15. The field of candidates is mostly from schools but 1 religious organization and 1 sportsman club is also represented. Milan, Ypsilanti, Lincoln and Manchester schools
 - ii. safeTALK, The safeTALK class for youth is be on March 14th. Karyn has done a terrific job getting youth registered. Tiffany Moore has registered several from Stone School.
 - iii. Teen Screen
 - 1. Michelle arranged an appointment with Anne Vanden Belt MD at St. Joes hospital to discuss potential Teenscreen training with local pediatricians. Dr. Vanden Belt agreed to a presentation in June or July. Typical meetings include 50 -75 local pediatricians.
 - j. Surveillance (Adreanne), no new reports
 - k. Website: There were several positive comments on the WA website. Michelle mention how responsive Julie Stafford has been when she has updates. Up to this point updates usually made immediately and if not usually the same day. Julie has provided “over the top” service to WA efforts.
- III. The 2011 Ann Arbor “Out of the Darkness” Walk will take place on **Sunday, September 18, 2011 at Gallup Park in Ann Arbor**. You can register for the walk on the Out of the Darkness website (www.outofthedarkness.org).

It has been five months since the 2010 Ann Arbor “Out of the Darkness” Suicide Prevention Walk. Thanks to you the 2010 walk had record breaking attendance and fundraising with over 450 participants and over \$31,000 raised!

A portion of the funds that you raised have already benefitted our community by sending thirteen members (including school staff and police/fire personnel) to the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). ASIST is a two-day intensive course designed to help individuals recognize risk and learn how to intervene to prevent the immediate risk of suicide.

The first planning committee meeting for the 2011 walk is taking place on Tuesday, March 15th in Ann Arbor. We welcome your ideas and feedback about how we can make this year's walk a success. If you're interested in joining the planning committee, please email Tiffany Messer at AFSPannarbor@gmail.com. Again, thank you for your awesome effort on behalf of depression, suicide prevention research and education, and survivor support programs. We look forward to your feedback and hope to see you on Sept. 18th, if not sooner!

IV. Goal update reports

- a. Goal 1: Promote awareness that suicide is preventable. (Michael Murphy/Mark Lindke/Wendy Beardsley)
 - i. Webpage: see above in section II. k.
- b. Goal 2: Develop, implement and evaluate suicide prevention programs and resources. (Tasha Kelly/Anne Kramer) Anne and Tasha have been researching statistics on suicide and the elderly population and have started to identify what resources are already established and available to this population in Washtenaw County. They will be working on contacting the various organizations that they identified thus far. If anyone has any suggestions and/or input, they would be happy to have it! :) Please e-mail Anne or Tasha.
- c. Goal 3: Develop a sustainable surveillance system. (Adreanne Waller/Dr. Jeff Jentzen/Michelle Rose Armstrong).
- d. Goal 4: Promote National Suicide Hotline. (John Kettley/Michelle Rivette/Karyn Boyce). Signs for parking structure are close to complete. VA Hospital are making and paying for signs.
- e. Goal 5: Improve early identification of individuals contemplating suicide. (Don Hart/Julie Staples Watson)
- f. Goal 6: Increase the number of mental health practitioners using best practice suicide assessment tools. (Liz Spring/Dick Deighton). See above I. iii
- g. Goal 7: Provide support services to families, schools, and others who had a relationship or involvement with someone who has died by suicide. (Maryjane Bottonari)
 - i. The TERN and CISM Teams are still activated by contacting Ann Arbor Police Dispatch. Both teams are housed under the Sheriff's Department, Emergency Management Division.

- h. Goal 8: Seek funding (grants, in-kind resources) for the implementation of the Washtenaw County Suicide Prevention Plan (Michelle Rose Armstrong/Sharon Sheldon)

Next Meeting April 14th, 2011 Hosted By Suicide A.L.E.R.T
At Corner Health in Ypsilanti