

▶ Idaho Suicide Prevention Coalition

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE 2017



Idaho Suicide Prevention Coalition



SUICIDE PREVENTION ACTION NETWORK of Idaho



Idaho Public Health Association



Ada County Paramedics
We're in it for Life!



SHOSHONE-BANNOCK TRIBES

LIVE Wilder
ADVANCING ZERO SUICIDE FOR YOUTH



i The semicolon is symbolic, denoting a pause in life, and not the end

ISPC Organized in 2015 with 501(c)(3) H designation approved 2016

Mission:

Create a statewide coalition “The Idaho Suicide Prevention Coalition” in order to have a concerted representation of public and private supporters on suicide prevention, training, education and policy.

Objective 2015:

Support the Idaho Health Quality Planning Commission's (HQPC) and the Idaho Council on Suicide Prevention recommendations for strategic legislative needs and funding.

Advocacy Successes and Opportunities:

- Statute change: Mission of H&W to include suicide prevention
 - Instrumental in the success of legislation and funding 2016
- Hotline Funding
 - State Legislative Funding Lobby – 60% operations
 - \$300k infrastructure grant – J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation
 - \$44.9k texting program grant – Public Utilities Commission
- Opportunities:
 - Coroner System and Reporting Improvements
 - School Prevention Program Access and Funding
 - Safe Storage Awareness for Lethal Means

The Coalition's stance is legislation is last recourse!

Coroner Reporting

Led efforts to put coroner reporting on the table with H&W and Coroner Assn:

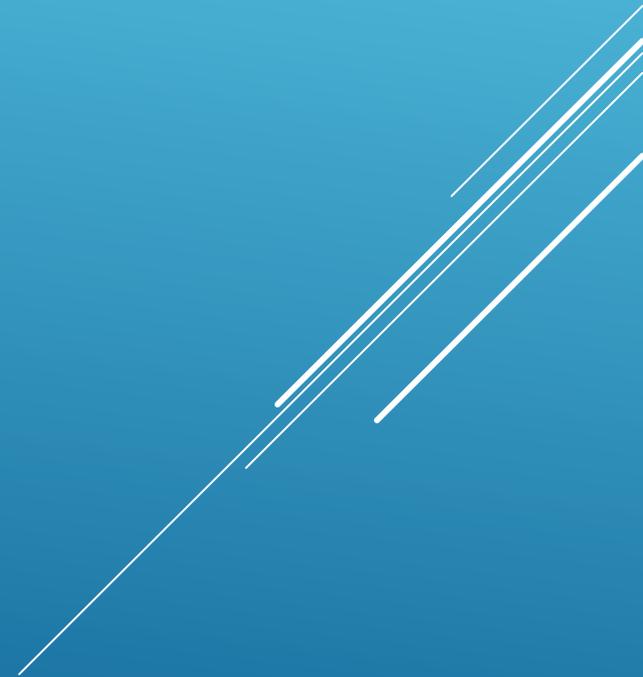
- 5 day statute to immediate reporting
 - School Reporting for Postvention practices to reduce contagion and improve supports.
- Accountability of coroners to who?
 - No state agency (Medical Examiner's Office)
 - Coroner's Association
 - Voluntary system (voter accountability)
 - Accurate and timely data to support the SPP efforts
- Coroner credentialing is not required.

Status of efforts with SPP, H&W and Coroner Assn:

- 48 hr reporting initiative is in place with voluntary participation
- Coroner report updates through H&W
- Education and training initiative a focus of the Assn.

Coroner:

The death of a student has a profound impact on a school community; this is compounded when the death is the result of suicide. Timely action by a school in the aftermath of a suicide is critical to support students, staff and parents.



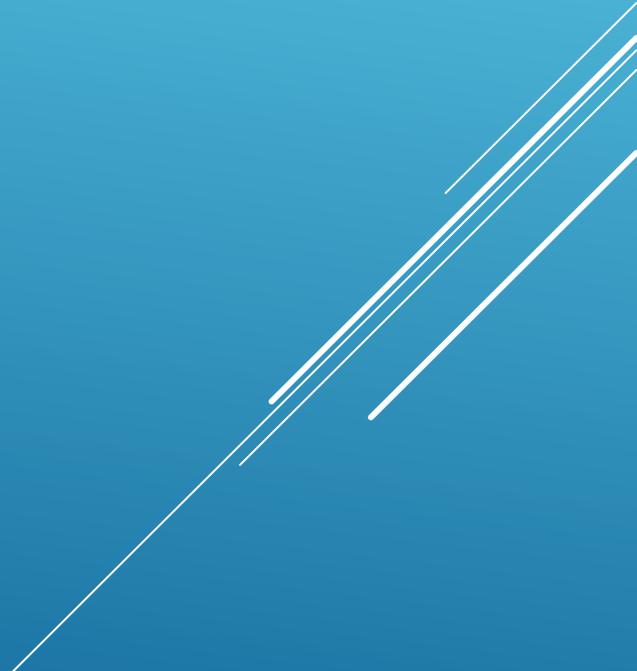
Timely Reporting

What is needed:

- Timely Action – support students, staff and parents
 - Coroners – first point of contact to determine suicidal death
 - State Dept of Education notification essential for consultation, resources, supports, etc
 - Name of school is the only information needed for SDE
- Schools invoke Evidence Based Postvention practices – prevent contagion

Law and Behavior Health

An Uneasy Alliance

- Same Person Different Name
 - **Offenders** (Law)
 - **Patients/Clients** (Behavior Health)
 - Public Perception
 - Professional Perception
- 
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Law and Behavioral Health Paradigm Conflicts

Avoid the Collision - Professional Responsibility

Behavioral Health Professionals

- Don't exaggerate the state of knowledge of the profession
- Don't ignore the problem of translating the behavior science language into legal findings

Lawyers and Judges

- Don't ignore the value of behavior science
- Don't give up fact finding in favor of science

SAFE STORAGE OF LETHAL MEANS

Firearms and Pharmaceuticals

Means in Order of Completion of Suicide:

- firearm
- poisoning
- hanging
- jumping from high place
- downing
- cutting (sharp object)

ISPC COLLABORATION ON SAFE STORAGE EDUCATION

- Idaho Suicide Prevention Program
- Idaho Firearms Alliance
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- NRA
- National Shooting Sports Foundation
- SPAN Idaho
- The Speedy Foundation
- State of UT: successes and resource sharing

...And other stakeholders to *jointly* raise awareness around safe storage and handling of lethal means.

Idaho Vital Statistics Report:

- 60% of suicide deaths between 2010 and 2014 involved a firearm
- Poisoning is the leading cause of death among females in Idaho.
 - Medication overdose is the primary means
 - Physician's have the highest rates – access and education

*Sadly, Idaho dropped from 9th to 5th in the US in 2015 for suicide rates
(American Association of Suicidology Report Dec 2016)*

***ISPC is in place to direct change for a reversal in the statistics;
together we can do this!***

Strategies

Partnering and Outreach

Firearm-owning community:

- shooting range owners
- hunting organizations
- firearm instructors and others

Healthcare and Pharmaceutical community

- Clinicians
- Hospitals
- Pharmacists and others

Goal:

Increase involvement in suicide prevention education and safety

Education and Awareness

Importance of Lethal Means Education:

- Healthcare Professionals and Firearm Communities
 - secure medications and firearms away until the individual stabilizes
- Supporting Voluntary Safe Storage
 - Education Initiatives
 - Public Awareness Campaigns
 - Access to Educational Materials, Resources, Gun Locks, Medication Lockboxes, etc

Putting time and distance between a suicidal person and lethal means can help save lives.

Awareness Campaign : Is Your Safety On?



The National Shooting Sports Foundation and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention used the 2017 SHOT Show to scale up their campaign to stop 10,000 deaths over the next decade.