

**SUMMIT COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION
STRATEGIC PLAN – 2015**

The mission of the Coalition is to reduce the number of deaths by suicide in Summit County. Based on local, state and national statistics, the coalition has identified target populations of youth, middle-aged men and the elderly. Our goals, in keeping with national suicide prevention goals are to:

1. Increase awareness about suicide as a public health and mental health problem toward reducing stigma and increasing help-seeking behavior.
2. Reduce factors in the community that increase the risk of suicide.
3. Gather data about suicides and suicide attempts and evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to prevent suicide.

Objective	Activities/Strategies
Goal 1: Awareness/help-seeking	
<p>Objective #1: Develop broad-based community support for suicide prevention efforts in Summit County.</p> <p>Objective #2: Implement public awareness campaigns to reduce stigma, increase community understanding of risk factors and increase likelihood that those at risk will seek help.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase community stakeholder participation. Partner with OFSP/other funders to grow coalition/implement strategies. • Outreach to other coalitions to collaborate and share effective prevention strategies. • Promote safe messaging by local media. Develop print/web-based resources re: mental health and suicide prevention • Identify awareness strategies for high-risk groups: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ local mantherapy campaign to reach middle-aged men ○ collaboration with senior organizations/providers
Goal 2: Reduce risk of suicide	
<p>Objective #1: Increase community knowledge in identifying and helping those at risk and those affected by suicide.</p> <p>Objective #2: Increase capability of local school/university personnel to intervene with at-risk students</p> <p>Objective #3: Promote safe community by enhancing protective factors/building community capacity to help those at risk.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide resources/facilitate gatekeeper training for general community and targeted gatekeepers such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ faith community ○ lawyers/financial planners ○ non-psychiatric health care and AOD providers ○ criminal justice/first responders ○ those working with veterans and LGBT youth • Collaborate with/provide resources to schools to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ implement evidence-based mental health and suicide awareness programs ○ develop suicide prevention training for staff, educators, parents and students ○ design comprehensive crisis, prevention, intervention and postvention plans • Promote adoption of system-wide Zero Suicide Initiative concepts • Strengthen community crisis response for those at risk • Enhance survivor outreach/resources including for clinician survivors • Promote best practices in means restriction • Promote/sponsor training and best practices in risk assessment/intervention for mental health providers • Promote gatekeeper training for all staff in MH/AoD treatment agencies.
Goal 3: Gather data	
<p>Objective #1: Gather and report on Summit County, state and national suicide/attempt data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify sources of death and attempt data and use to identify suicide prevention needs.