



# Milwaukee Suicide Review Commission Overview

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# Background

- Initiative of the Division of Suicide Prevention at the Comprehensive Injury Center at MCW
- Commission began meeting in January 2021
- Goal: To review suicides to generate recommendations for prevention
  - Why suicide? Why that method? Why now?
- Scope of commission
  - Review adult suicides (ages 18 and older)
  - City of Milwaukee residents only
  - Review two cases per meeting
    - Cases originate from Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office
- Monthly meetings
  - Via Zoom for the time being
- Educational component

# Commission Membership

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Medical College of WI (researchers and clinician faculty)

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Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office

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Milwaukee Fire Department

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Milwaukee County Behavioral Health

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Prevent Suicide Greater Milwaukee

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Mental Health America of WI/Prevent Suicide Wisconsin

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Froedtert Hospital

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University of WI-Milwaukee

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City of Milwaukee Office of Violence Prevention

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Wisconsin Community Services

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(Milwaukee Police Department)

# Data Used for Reviews

Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office

Froedtert Hospital (EPIC)

Milwaukee County Behavioral Health

Publicly available information

- Obituary
- Social Media
- CCAP
- News Stories

Biopsychosocial review of data



# Example Data

## Summary of 2021 suicides

### Milwaukee County

Data available as of August 12th

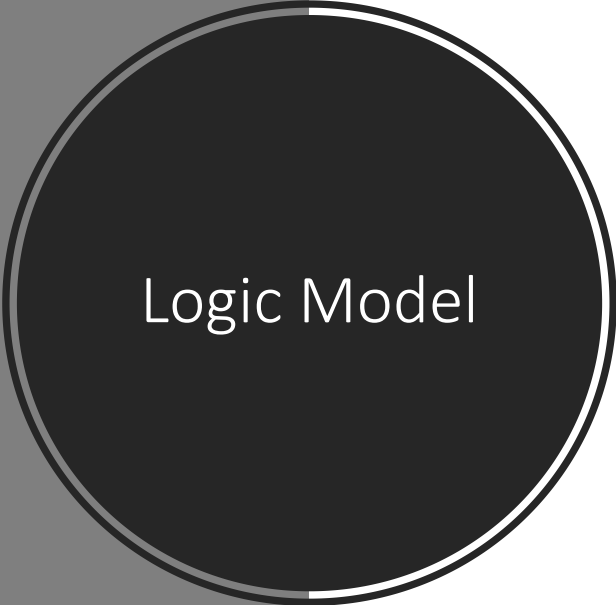
71 total suicides in MKE County

- On pace for ~ 105 suicides this year

77% of individuals who died were male

72% of individuals who died were white

- 9.9% Black (down from 15% in 2020)
- 9.9% Hispanic (up from 8% in 2020)
- 4.2% API (up from 2% in 2020)
- 2.8% Multiracial (up from 0% in 2020)
- 1.4% Eastern Indian (down from 2% in 2020)



**Program: Milwaukee Suicide Review Commission Logic Model**

**Situation: Suicide is a public health issue in Milwaukee. Suicide rates among young Black residents and suicides from the Hoan Bridge have been increasing in recent years. Suicide is preventable and current local suicide prevention efforts could benefit from coordination and review of local data.**

Inputs	Outputs		Outcomes -- Impact			
	Activities	Participation	Short	Medium	Long	
Comprehensive Injury Center (CIC)	Convene monthly commission meetings.	All partners	Increased understanding of current suicide prevention and postvention programs that focus on City of Milwaukee residents.	Increased coordination of suicide prevention and postvention efforts that focus on City of Milwaukee residents.	Reduced suicide rates among City of Milwaukee residents	
Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW)	Review suicide cases that occur among residents of the City of Milwaukee.	All partners MCWEO				
Froedtert Hospital	Provide education on evidence-based and evidence-informed practices for suicide prevention and postvention.	CIC	Increased awareness of evidence-based and evidence-informed suicide prevention and postvention interventions.	Increased support of the implementation of suicide prevention and postvention interventions in Milwaukee.		
Children's Wisconsin						
Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)	Develop and maintain a list of recommendations for local suicide prevention efforts based on case reviews.	All partners	Increased understanding of biopsychosocial factors that contribute to suicide among City of Milwaukee residents.	Increased dissemination of data via local, state, and national outlets.		Reduced rates of self-inflicted injury emergency department visits among City of Milwaukee residents
Milwaukee County Medical Examiner (MCWEO)	Provide opportunities for networking among commission members.	All partners				
Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA)	Engage additional community partners as suggested by review process.	CIC	Increased dissemination of local statistics and contributing factors to local suicide prevention agencies.	Increased advocacy for programming funds to support suicide prevention and postvention efforts that are informed by local data.		
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention -WI Chapter (AFSP-WI)	Coordinate local suicide prevention activities, including literature drops and awareness events.	All partners				
Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division (BHD)	Apply for grant funding to support local suicide prevention efforts.	MCW	Increased understanding of how suicide review teams contribute to suicide prevention.	Development and dissemination of best practices in suicide review for adoption in other communities.		Reduced rates of self-inflicted injury hospitalizations among City of Milwaukee residents
Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD)	Evaluate suicide review commission activities.	CIC				
Milwaukee Police Department (MPD)				Improved suicide prevention and postvention in Milwaukee and in Wisconsin.		
Time						

# Outcomes to Date

7 meetings held

- 8 cases reviewed to date

Presentations by  
MCMEO, VA, Prism  
Program, LOSS Team  
information

Literature drop (175  
resources  
distributed) to hotels  
near airport in MKE

Inclusion of National  
Suicide Prevention  
Lifeline information  
in Google searches

Study on suicide and  
evictions

Study on college  
student suicides



# Contacts

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- Thank you!