

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS 2024 WISCONSIN ZERO SUICIDE TRAINING

June 26, 27, 28
Live Online via Zoom

A. Background

Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA), with support through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Health Services/Division of Care and Treatment Services, is inviting applications from eligible entities to participate in the 10th Annual Wisconsin Zero Suicide Training (WZST) and subsequent learning community. Zero Suicide is a long-term commitment to quality improvement that includes both a cultural shift and a set of best practices in addressing suicide prevention within health and behavioral health care organizations. Zero Suicide presents an aspirational challenge and practical framework for system-wide transformation toward safer suicide care. Successful implementation of the Zero Suicide framework requires assessing your current organizational culture to understand your readiness to enact the necessary changes, a commitment to make appropriate allocation of human and financial resources over time to realize identified opportunities, and a reassessment to determine system-wide impact.

Zero Suicide operationalizes the core components necessary for health care systems to transform suicide care into seven elements. See the Zero Suicide Toolkit and seven elements here:

<https://zerosuicide.edc.org/toolkit/zero-suicide-toolkit>. Learn more about Zero Suicide efforts in Wisconsin that build on work that MHA has been doing since 2013 here: <https://www.preventsuicidewi.org/zero-suicide>.

B. Eligibility

Eligible Organizations: Eligible organizations are health care or behavioral health organizations committed to adopting and implementing the Zero Suicide framework and whose client population includes adults with Serious Mental Illness or youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance.

A wide variety of organization types are welcome to apply. Some examples include:

- Health maintenance organizations
- Hospitals or hospital systems
- County human service programs, including mental health/substance use, crisis intervention services, community support programs, etc.
- Other public/private outpatient mental health/behavioral health programs
- Local health departments
- Federally qualified health centers
- Veterans Administration hospitals or clinics or WI Department of Veterans Affairs facilities
- Campus counseling centers
- Long-term care facilities

C. Training Description

The live online three-day training includes presentations from state and national Zero Suicide faculty on the seven elements of the Zero Suicide framework, suicide care resources and tools, examples of different types of organizations that have implemented the Zero Suicide framework, and breakout group implementation planning sessions. Teams will be supported by faculty in developing action plans to begin this process. See page 6 for a preliminary list of faculty members.

The training will run from approximately 9:00 am - 2:00 pm CT each day. A detailed agenda will be provided to those accepted into the training. Calendar invitations with Zoom meeting links and phone lines to connect will be sent to all participants.

The objectives of the WI Zero Suicide Training are to:

- Explore our attitudes about suicide and understand the perspectives of those with lived experience
- Understand the philosophy of Zero Suicide and the seven elements as a continuous quality improvement framework
- Develop an action plan for initial steps that an implementation team can take at your organization

D. Expectations

Implementation Team: The ideal implementation team would have generally five to ten individuals, depending on organization size. Key participants preferably include:

- A senior level administrative staff from organizational leadership (a senior decision-maker) who is positioned to engage in action planning during the training and who can ensure the framework is embedded in the organization's structure and budget
- A senior clinician serving as the lead clinical champion familiar with the current knowledge and skills of the clinical staff who will facilitate action planning promoting changes to clinical practices and training
- Individuals with lived experience of suicide (thoughts, attempts, and/or loss) who can provide critical insight into the impact of organizational practices on those seeking care
- Key community partners, such as leaders of local suicide prevention coalitions or local health departments, to facilitate the spread of Zero Suicide within the broader community
- For large organizations, the following participants are strongly encouraged:
 - Quality Improvement (QI)
 - Information Technology (IT)

Learning Community: Organizations that attend the training are expected to participate in a learning community for one year post-training, which includes quarterly group calls and topic calls. The group calls are intended to be an opportunity to discuss implementation of action plans, share successes and challenges, and obtain consultation from faculty and fellow implementing organizations. At least one team member is expected to participate in each group call. Topic calls will highlight areas of interest related to elements of Zero Suicide.

Evaluation: Organizations will be required to complete an Organizational Self-Study and provide updates on progress of their work. The purpose of the initial Self-Study is to obtain an honest assessment of current suicide prevention practices to use as a baseline for action planning. The Self-Study is best completed by a

team of individuals who can speak to both administrative and clinical practices within the organization. The Self-Study will be utilized in action planning at the training, so those attending the training should ideally have participated in its completion. Organizations are expected to submit a new Self-Study to MHA at the end of one year to measure change within the organization.

Pre-Training Preparation: To optimize training time, attendees may be asked to do some preparation. Organizations that are accepted for the training will be notified of any pre-training assignments or readings.

E. Timeline and Submission Process

Call for Applications Released	Thursday, February 1, 2024
Applicant Q&A	Tuesday, February 20, 2024, 12-1 pm
Application Due	Friday, March 1, 2024, 11:59 pm
Applicants Notified of Status	Wednesday, March 22, 2024
Team Introduction Calls (a scheduling form will be sent to sign up for time slots)	Wednesday-Friday, April 17, 18, 19, 2024
Organizational Self-Study Due	Friday, May 24, 2024
WI Zero Suicide Training Dates	Wednesday-Friday, June 26, 27, 28, 2024

Notification of Changes: Any changes or updates to the application or instructions will be communicated through the Prevent Suicide Wisconsin e-newsletter: <https://www.preventsuicidewi.org/e-newsletter>.

Applicant Q&A Webinar: A live webinar will be held by MHA staff to provide an overview of the WI Zero Suicide Training, review the Call for Applications and expectations, and respond to any questions. Registration is not required, but you are welcome to save these details to your calendar if you plan to attend the Q&A webinar:

Tuesday February 20th, at 12:00 pm CT

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7252987315?>
 Meeting ID: 725 298 7315
 One tap mobile + 17193594580, 802869# US
 Dial by your location +1 305 224 1968 US



The recording will be posted following the live webinar here: <https://www.preventsuicidewi.org/zero-suicide>.

Please contact MHA with any questions related to this application or the training:

Alisha Nelson, Zero Suicide Program Coordinator: Alisha@mhawisconsin.org

Application Submission: The Application Narrative (see page 5) must be completed using this [link](#), by **March 1st, at 11:59 pm**.

Organizational Self-Study: Use the online portal to complete the Self-Study:

<https://zerosuicide.edc.org/resources/key-resources/organizational-self-study>

EDC offers several versions of the Self-Study, based on your organizational type. Choose the Self-Study that matches your organization type. You will be required to create a login through the website. Once you click “Submit” and see your completed Organizational Self-Study on-screen, scroll to the end of your completed Organizational Self-Study and locate the “Print PDF” button, which will enable you to save a version as a PDF file. We encourage each team member to print their own copy of the Self-Study for easy reference during the training. If you close out before saving, you will need to log back in to access your Self-Study. **Please fill out this form by Friday, May 24, at 11:59 pm.**

F. Cost: A fee of \$250 per team participating in the training will be payable upon notification of acceptance.

G. Continuing Education Hours (CEHs): MHA will be applying for CEHs through the National Association of Social Workers-Wisconsin Chapter. These would qualify for meeting the requirement of 30 hours of continuing education per two-year credential period for licensed Marriage and Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, and Social Workers. Last year, we were approved for 12.5 hours. We will notify participants when these are awarded.

H. Selection Criteria:

Each application will be reviewed by MHA. A variety of factors will be considered in making selections:

- The completeness of the responses to the Application Narrative found in Attachment 1
- Demonstration of the organization’s **commitment and capacity** to engage in continuous quality improvement initiatives over a period of years
- The degree to which the organization serves the priority populations of adults with Serious Mental Illness and youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance
- Consideration of geographical and organizational composition

Application Narrative

Please respond to each of the following points.

1. Provide a description of your organization. For example, are you applying as a health system, a behavioral health clinic, an FQHC; how many individuals do you cover/serve on a yearly basis?
2. Discuss how you serve adults with Serious Mental Illness and/or youth with Serious Emotional Disturbance. If applicable, discuss how you serve individuals with substance use disorders. Identify whether you have unique programs for these individuals.¹
3. What has motivated you to apply to participate in this training?
4. Identify each team member and include the following information: name, credentials, job title, and job duties (including job duties as it relates to this project). You are encouraged to include individuals with lived experience, those representing local suicide prevention coalitions and/or other community partners. See “Implementation Team” under Sec. D above.
 - a. Please indicate the application lead; this person will receive all correspondence related to questions about the application, notification of acceptance, and information related to the training itself.
5. Describe what your executive leadership has done and will do to support implementation of the Zero Suicide framework.
6. Describe how you plan to fulfill the participant expectations that are outlined in Sec. D of the application. How will you create and maintain your implementation team over time? How will you approach including individuals with lived experience of suicide and/or key community members? How will you address challenges related to participating in the learning community or to implementing the seven elements over time?
7. Based on your organization’s Self-Study, what are one or two key elements on which you would like to focus your initial efforts?
8. What have you done within your organization to date to prevent suicide among your population served? What have the results been? Please describe any involvement in community-based suicide prevention efforts.
9. Zero Suicide is a continuous quality improvement framework. It requires modification to your organization's culture and practices over an extended period of time. If your organization engages in continuous quality improvement, please describe an effort your organization has undertaken. What did you learn from that process that informs your participation in this project? If you do not have an example of a continuous quality improvement within your organization, discuss what you understand this to entail.

¹ Wisconsin Zero Suicide training is supported by funds from the federal Mental Health Block Grant, which has these specific populations as target populations.

Wisconsin Zero Suicide Training Faculty and Facilitator Bios

Clinical Faculty

Sue Jungen, CSAC, ICS is a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor-Certified Clinical Supervisor, who has worked in the field for 35 years. Her last role prior to retirement was Director of Mental Health Services for Affinity Health System.

Sue is a former board member and Co-Chair/Founder of the N.E.W. Mental Health Connection and Co-Chair of the Fox Valley Substance Abuse Coalition. Sue has also served as the Chair of the Tri County Zero Suicide Initiative. Currently she serves as a Vice Chair for United Way Health Impact Panel, Vice President with Appleton Noon Lions, a member of the United Way Grants Committee and Prevent Suicide Steering Committee and is a Certified QPR trainer. Sue also volunteers at St Joe's Food Pantry. Sue provides AODA Clinical Supervision at Samaritan Counseling.

Sue will share her lived experience having lost a significant other to suicide as well as a child who was an attempt survivor. After attending Henry Ford Perfect depression care conference in 2013, she has been very active in sharing her philosophical shift as it relates to suicide. She is a national faculty member for the SPRC/EDC Zero Suicide Academy and faculty for MHA/PSW State Zero Suicide Training since 2016.

Personally, Sue enjoys spending time with her spouse and 4 Children as well as her 12 grandchildren.

Jim Salasek, PhD. retired in 2016 after 42 years of active clinical practice. Throughout his career he provided clinical services primarily to individuals who generally expressed their anger in maladaptive ways engaging in acting out behaviors associated with domestic, community and workplace violence. He also served in numerous administrative capacities including director of behavioral health services at Agnesian HealthCare. Jim was part of the team from Agnesian that participated in the first Wisconsin State Zero Suicide Academy in April 2015 and was responsible for implementing Zero Suicide at Agnesian HealthCare. He has been a WI Zero Suicide Faculty member since 2016. He was on the Steering Committee of Prevent Suicide Wisconsin for several years and assisted with the annual Prevent Suicide state conference prior to moving to Minnesota in 2019. He was on the Executive Committee of Comprehensive Services Integration of Fond du Lac County, Inc. serving as chair of the Suicide Prevention subcommittee where he worked with community stakeholders to implement a three-year grant: Destination Zero – Reducing Suicide in Fond du Lac County. He was also on the Trauma-Informed Care committee and served five years on the Advisory Board of YScreen, an emotional health screening offered to all ninth graders in Fond du Lac County which has a focus of reducing suicide in the high school age population county-wide.

Toni Simonson PhD, FACHE, is the Executive Director of Behavioral Health Services in the Western Wisconsin for Hospital Sisters Health System and Prevea Health. Services include a full array of both inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance use disorders treatment. Toni has a PhD in Psychology with over 35 years of behavioral health experience.

Toni is passionate about suicide prevention and has served on the National Zero Suicide Institute as a faculty member since the summer of 2016. Additionally, she serves as faculty for Wisconsin's Zero Suicide initiative. Toni is also passionate about addressing the opioid epidemic and has led the development and deployment of Medication Assisted Treatment services in Western Wisconsin.

Toni Chairs the Eau Claire County Suicide Death Review Team; and Chairs the Quality Committee of Eau Claire County's Community Services Across the Lifespan (CSAL) committee. She also serves as a member of several local initiatives, including; the Chippewa County Suicide Death Review Team, Eau Claire County Suicide Death Review Team, Prevent Suicide Chippewa Valley, Eau Claire County Opioid Overdose Fatality Review Team, Chippewa County Overdose Fatality Review Team, Eau Claire County Hoarding Task Force and United Ways Health Advisory Council.

Personally, Toni enjoys spending time with her husband and family, engaging in activities that include kayaking, paddle boarding, canoeing, boating, bicycling, playing board games, going to movies, and just being together.

Lived Experience Faculty

Val Neff is a Minneapolis-based therapist at Cedar Hill Therapy. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology and a Bachelor of Music degree in music performance from Lawrence University and a master's of science in education degree in Professional Counseling from UW Oshkosh. She was formerly employed with NAMI Fox Valley as the Assistant Director at Iris Place Peer Run Respite, and she also co-facilitated NAMI FV's Alternatives to Suicide support group and their Young Adult Support and Transition group. She was also a member of the Prevent Suicide Wisconsin Steering Committee, as well as the Tri County Zero Suicide Coalition. All of her experiences, both personal and professional, have instilled in her the importance of individualized person-centered support, as well as the need for more strengths-based approaches in the human services field.

Patty Slatter Lived Experienced Speaker, involved in NAMI Rock County, Involved with Mental Health America Wisconsin, Faculty Member for Zero Suicide Initiative of Wisconsin and a member of the Rock County Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee, Police Commissioner for Milton Police Department.

Trained in Nami facilitating peer support groups, Trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid Prevent. Trained in NAMI CIT Presentations, Trained in Nami Raise Your Voice.

My involvement with mental health and suicide awareness is driven by my lived experience of over 20 years. After a long road of recovery, it has been my pleasure to share my lived experience in order to give others hope and assist others in identifying treatment gaps.

In all my roles, I am powered by my passion to raise awareness, support my peers, and increase knowledge and understanding to all community members in the hopes to break the silence around mental health challenges and suicide. I love collaborating with local organizations on mental health and suicide Awareness!!

Additional Faculty and Facilitators

Julianne Dwyer, JD, is with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), Division of Care and Treatment Services, where she is the Mental Health Promotion and Prevention Coordinator. She administers the state's Mental Health Block Grant funding for suicide prevention, which supports the systems approach of Zero Suicide and the annual Wisconsin Zero Suicide Training. Julianne attended the first DHS-sponsored Zero Suicide training at the Henry Ford Health System in 2013 and has since continued to work on the development and delivery of Zero Suicide training in Wisconsin. She has also been involved in the state's implementation of the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

Brian Michel, JD, is the Chief Operating Officer for Mental Health America of Wisconsin (MHA). He oversees the development of MHA's suicide prevention and peer support programming. This work has included facilitating Zero Suicide trainings, coordination of the Prevent Suicide Wisconsin Conference and steering committee, and research in improving data collection and reporting of suicide statistics. Brian also serves as the Program Director for the R&R House, a DHS-funded Peer Run Respite for Veterans, which provides on-site and warmline peer support. Brian is Co-Chair of the Legislative and Policy Committee and a member of the Criminal Justice Committee of the Wisconsin Council on Mental Health and served as a priority team leader within the Veteran's Affairs Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide among Service Members, which aims to implement the National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide by improving care transitions and promoting connectedness.

Alisha Nelson, is the Zero Suicide Program Coordinator for Mental Health of America of Wisconsin (MHA). Alisha's background includes work in Drug Treatment Courts, Vivitrol implementation in the jail setting, and work with Milwaukee County Targeted Case Management mental health services. Alisha is a suicide loss survivor and has since become an advocate for suicide prevention and awareness.

Personally, Alisha enjoys outdoor adventures with her two sons ages 8 and 6, as well as her giant St, Bernard/Mastiff mix.

This is a preliminary list of faculty and facilitators and may be modified closer to the training dates.