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2023

# LOCAL COALITION REPORT

MHA
Mental Health America
of Wisconsin

Report Overview

A huge thank you to all of the coalitions who participated in the 2023 survey! We appreciate and value all of your feedback as well as the evident work you all continue to do to prevent suicide and promote mental health in your communities. The purpose of this survey was to get an update on coalition activities, challenges, and needs in order to better serve you as well as to measure progress on our state suicide prevention plan.

Based on the survey results, below is a summary of several activities that participating coalitions are active in, as well as common areas for potential growth.

Coalitions are active in the following areas:

100% of coalitions educate communities on the prevalence of suicide and how to provide support and
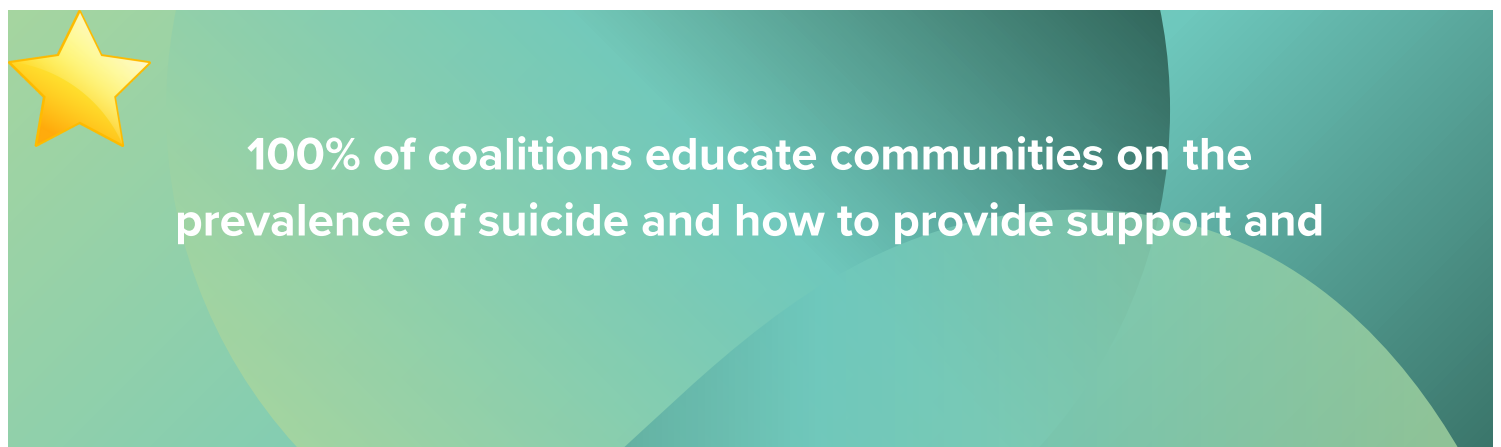
Additional activities that coalitions are involved with:

- 94% of coalitions train communities to identify suicide risk and support individuals in crisis.
- 94% Publicly communicate safe and effective messages about suicide prevention.

- 87% Provide communities with support and resources after a suicide loss.

Peer support services that coalitions are providing:

- 69% Utilize peer or other support groups to facilitate meaningful social connections among those who are experiencing suicidal thoughts, who have attempted suicide, or who have lost loved ones to suicide.
- 69% Promote the implementation and expansion of peer-led services and programs.

Other activities include:

- 81% Encourage the use of data to inform prevention efforts.
- 75% Encourage individuals to dispose of medications and household chemicals safely.
- 75% Use evidence-based practices in suicide prevention efforts.
- 69% Work with school districts to encourage participation in the YRBS and utilize survey results to inform local youth suicide prevention efforts.

Areas for growth:

Healthcare Organization involvement	Suicide Death Review	Evaluation
18% of coalitions are able to encourage organizations to establish referral agreements between acute and outpatient providers. 18% are able to encourage implementation of post-discharge follow-up contacts with at risk individuals.	18% Provide death investigation guides for coroners, medical examiners, and law enforcement to improve and standardize the data collected on suicide deaths.	18% Evaluate suicide prevention programs to monitor progress toward goals and whether interventions are having the desired effect.

Resources:

- Zero Suicide training could assist with healthcare organization involvement (https://www.preventsuicidewi.org/zero-suicide)
- Suicide Death Investigation Community of Practice: Meetings occur virtually every other month, please email Dr. Sara Kohlbeck (skohlbeck@mcw.edu) from the Division of Suicide Research and Healing at MCW to receive meeting information and to be added to the rooster
- Program evaluation tools:

- ○ RAND Suicide Prevention Program Evaluation Toolkit (https://www.rand.org/pubs/tools/TL111.html)
  - ○ CDC Developing an Effective Evaluation Plan (https://sprc.org/online-library/developing-an-effective-evaluation-plan-setting-the-course-for-effective-program-evaluation/)
- DHS Self-Harm Data Dashboard (https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/injury-prevention/self-harm.htm)