

## **OHA's Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Intervention & Prevention Initiative**

**June 30, 2019-June 29, 2024** (SAMHSA Grant #6H79SM082094-01M001)

### ***Evaluation Description***

The PSU Regional Research Institute for Human Services (RRI) has been asked to conduct a process and outcome evaluation of the Oregon Health Authority's Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Intervention & Prevention Initiative, a project being implemented by OHA's Injury & Violence Prevention (IVP) Program. Funding for the initiative and this evaluation is provided by the U.S. Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The overall project goal is to implement suicide prevention and early intervention strategies for youth, age 10-24, in schools, educational institutions, juvenile justice systems, substance use programs, mental health programs, foster care systems, and other child and youth-serving organizations. Specific grant goals are to: (1) Increase the capacity of counties with higher than average rates of youth suicide to sustainably implement evidence-based youth suicide prevention strategies within those counties.; (2) Increase number of youth-serving organizations able to identify and refer youth at risk of suicide; (3) Increase capacity of clinical service providers to assess, manage, and treat youth at risk of suicide.; and (4) Improve the continuity of care and follow-up of youth identified to be at risk for suicide, including those who have been discharged from emergency department (ED) and inpatient psychiatric units.

In GLS Year 1, services were provided in Deschutes, Jackson, Josephine, Umatilla, and Washington counties (Cohort 1) by established direct service provider organizations. In June 2020, IVP selected three Cohort 2 direct service provider organizations for funding in grant Years 2-5 via a competitive request for proposals: Deschutes, Lane, and Multnomah County mental Health Departments.

Within the Cohort 1 & 2 GLS grant-funded counties, suicide prevention coordinators will:

1. Provide gatekeeper trainings to staff in youth serving organizations
2. Establish suicide prevention trainings for staff and students in 30% of the county's middle and high schools
3. Work with up to 5 youth serving agencies per county to implement suicide risk assessment, management and treatment strategies
4. Provide ongoing support to local youth suicide coalitions
5. Develop and implement a community-wide continuity of care and follow-up plan for youth identified to be at risk for suicide

On the state level, GLS grant-funded staff will:

1. Host 11 regional trainings for youth-serving clinicians on evidence-based suicide risk assessment, management and treatment strategies
2. Incorporate a youth suicide prevention track into Oregon's annual suicide prevention conference
3. Develop new content for the Oregon Suicide Prevention website
4. Train 120 DHS staff personnel and contractors to provide evidence-based gatekeeper trainings to foster parents and child welfare workers
5. Collaborate with Oregon's 76 school-based health centers to implement suicide risk assessment, referral and/or treatment protocols
6. Provide a Zero Suicide Academy for up to 16 health systems
7. Create suicide risk assessment, follow-up and treatment metrics for Oregon's Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs)

The PSU RRI will track progress toward implementing these goals and assess the impact of the Initiative through training evaluation and follow-up, site visits and interviews within GLS funded counties, tracking rates of follow-up services for youth identified as at risk for suicide, and assessing the level of implementation of Zero Suicide within participating health systems.

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