



GLS Campus Suicide Prevention Grant

September 30, 2021-September 29, 2024 (SAMHSA Grant 6H79SM084064-01M001)

Project Description

The PSU Campus Suicide Prevention Collaborative (SP Collaborative) was created as a result of three-year funding awarded by SAMHSA. The SP Collaborative is a joint project of the School of Social Work and the Center for Student Health and Counseling (SHAC). The Regional Research Institute (RRI) within the School of Social Work will track and assess the project's implementation, sharing outcomes and lessons with the SP Collaborative for program planning.

The overall project goal is to provide evidence-based, systematic suicide-safer care at PSU. The SP Collaborative will include students, faculty and staff. The project aims to accomplish these goals by (1) expanding the network of community behavioral health (BH) providers at PSU, (2) providing suicide prevention training to PSU and OCUSPP schools, (3) conducting outreach to students, faculty, and staff, and (4) providing suicide risk screening, assessment, and treatment to enrolled students at PSU. The program will develop suggested prevention and postvention protocols for all departments on campus, while also offering Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Trainings to clinical faculty, staff, and students on campus. It will target high-risk groups of students for these prevention strategies, including those in recovery from alcohol or other drug use, those who are veterans or have served in the military, LGBTQ+ students, international students, and students living with autism.

In Year 1, the SP collaborative will be convened and then will review the project components to ensure that they contain evidence-based and emerging best practices that are culturally and linguistically appropriate. The SP Collaborative will also ensure that SHAC's BH network infrastructure includes appropriately trained external BH providers using data from national student surveys & input from the BH community. SHAC will create a workflow for accessing that network and provide continuity of care for students assessed as at-risk for suicide. Also in Year 1, SHAC will have hired a Peer Recovery Specialist to provide outreach to at least 10 on-campus student groups and to provide voluntary SUD screenings, weekly peer-to-peer support groups, and voluntary recovery plans. A second PRS will be hired in Year 2. At least six new on- or off-campus organizations will begin collaborating, coordinating, & sharing resources with SHAC by the end of Year 1. By the end of the grant period, PSU SHAC will have developed and promoted an 8-module series of interactive online gatekeeper trainings, obtained PSU leadership approval for campus-wide suicide pre/postvention protocols and trained at least 5,000 campus community members in addition to hosting at least five 2-day ASSIST trainings for at least 125 PSU community members engaged in clinical work. By the end of the grant period at least 80% of the campus community will have been exposed to MH awareness messaging, 3,600 students will have been screened for suicide risk, and 100% of students identified as at risk of suicide will be receiving evidence-based clinical services on campus or been referred to relevant services and supports.

The PSU RRI will track progress toward implementing these goals and assess the impact of the SP Collaborative and grant activities through training evaluation and follow-up and through tracking suicide risk screenings, MH messaging, and effectiveness of the webinars.

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