

**MINUTES: 4/4/22 SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE**  
**12 - 1 PM St. ANDREW'S CHURCH LOWER LEVEL**  
**ONLINE on ZOOM**  
**Co-Chairs: Aaron Preece and Matthew Daniels**

**Present:**

**Aaron Preece, Counselor, High Country Behavioral Health**  
**Mardy Sleight, Business member, faith community**  
**Randy Belton, Business; Veterans Organizations: Lion's Club; Clergy**  
**Melinda Bobo, Priest-Rector, St. Andrew's in the Pines Church**  
**Carolyn Normington, Counselor, Pinedale Middle School**  
**Bobbi Wade, Business, Outfitter's Organizations**  
**Peggy Weber, Pinedale Visitor Center**  
**Trisha Scott, Coalition Coordinator**

**Notes:**

Bobbi Wade was present to share info on the late March suicide death of a Sublette native who died out of state. Both Bobbi and Randy reported they are staying close to the family and keeping them aware of local resources and support.

**QPR recertification process:**

Trisha will send a cover letter to the QPR organization with the recertification forms that explains our local training numbers so that we don't have to know exact numbers of how many trained. Bobbi is interested in a QPR training for the next Wyoming Outfitter's organization, also local Cattlewoman and Outfitter organizations.

**Veterans updates from Randy:**

St. Andrew's will provide the 2022 VA Community Clergy training April 18 6 - 8 PM:  
**Differentiate Moral Injury from PTSD, and Prevent Suicides by Building Spiritual Strength.**  
Respectful of all faiths, non-proselytizing. The training is for all interested community members. Contact Randy for more info: 307-231-1450.

**MH fund discussion:**

There is confusion at all levels, local and state, on what school districts can pay for re: counseling for students. Sub 9 has been paying for student counseling services with ARPA funds for kids with IEP's and ESSR for kids without IEP's. Sub1 has been using ARPA funds for kids on IEP's and has been using community MH funds for kids not on IEP's. Noone really knows how long these funds will last, even at the state level. Discussion on how it would be optimal for onsite telehealth for students be funded in the school funding. Melinda will apply for the next Episocpal Diocese grant in December, which is the last grant of these that she can apply for. Sub9 will use approximately \$17,000. of federal grant funds this year for their students and would like to know if there are no more federal funds for

next school year that the Community MH fund can pay for all or part of those services for 2022 - 2023 school year.

**Other school concerns:** Carolyn reported that BOCES is no longer funding the Champions Club, which teaches good coping and refusal skills.. Trisha will look into if Champions qualifies as evidence based and the CPG can fund. Carolyn reported that St. John's may have funds in their MH fund for Sublette students. Carolyn reported that there is good communication and collaboration with Teton County psychiatrist Dr. Westphal on behalf of Sublette students. It is a critical need and she is very grateful for the support . Another topic to celebrate: Sub 1 Elementary school will have 2 school counselors for the '22 -'23 school year.

**MH fund sustainability:** The task force will have new members interested in working on funding the MH fund, starting with the May 2 task force meeting..

Thank you to Melinda and Matthew for their work on brief edits to the Wyoming Hunter Education manual to include suicide prevention language in the safe storage section.

1;20: Adjourn formal meeting.