

## **MINUTES: 5/2/22 SUICIDE PREVENTION TASK FORCE**

**12-1 PM**

**St. Andrew's Church, lower level**

**Online on zoom**

**Co-Chairs: Matthew Daniels and Aaron Preece**

### **Present:**

**Matthew Daniels, Business**

**Aaron Preece, Counselor, High Country Behavioral Health**

**Melinda Bobo, Priest-Rector, St. Andrew's Church**

**Randy Belton, Veterans organizations; Lion's, Business, Episcopal Church**

**Priest-Associate**

**Peggy Weber, Pinedale Visitor Center**

**Bill Lehr, Marbleton Senior Center**

**Mardy Sleight, Business, Faith community, QPR instructor**

**Clayton Melinkovich, Sublette COunty Attorney's Office**

**Laurie Latta, Community member**

**Jim Latta, Community member**

**Trisha Scott, Coalition Coordinator**

### **Notes:**

Welcome and introductions. Welcome to Clayton Melinkovich from the County Attorney's Office and to Laurie and Jim Latta, interested community members.

Melinda and Randy shared information from the VA Chaplain Community training on Moral Injury and PTSD, held 4/18 at St. Andrew's. Randy identified moral injury as occurring when a person is required to complete a task that puts them in conflict with their moral values. Like for snipers. The symptoms of moral injury are the same as PTSD. Aaron reported that there is not yet a diagnosis code in the DSM for Moral Injury. Melinda reported the training focused on understanding methods used in veterans suicide and ways to put barriers between the person and the method. Example of how Britain after WWII changed gas valves on gas heating systems used in suicides to a lower non-fatal flow of gas. Veterans suicide decreased 43%. Melinda recommended updating our QPR powerpoint data slides to add the significance of addressing the method. Melinda recommended the training to the task force. **Randy will update the task force on upcoming training opportunity.**

Members discussed the military culture of "physical and mental invincibility". Discussed how past cultural and system norms discouraged active duty servicepeople from asking for help. Members observed that change is very slow but happening. Case in point: The military now has QPR equivalent suicide prevention training ASK - Ask, Care, Escort, or ACE training.

Bolder Roll Poker Run report: Randy reported that BRPR now has 501c3 status for donations.

**These members volunteered to show up for the Blessing of the Bikes on June 11 at 10am at the Boulder Bar to share data and gratitude for their donations.**

**Randy**

**Peggy**

Mardy

Melinda

Aaron

Clayton

Trisha

Bill will welcome riders to the Waterhole in Marbleton and visit about benefits to local youth from the MH fund.

Trisha will notify Carolyn Normington and Jen Wilkinson and Melissa Mitchell from the schools and request they come to report on how many kids are being helped.

Laurie requested Trisha to notify Robert Galbreath and the papers for a story and photos day of the ride.

Randy said it is in the works to have a multi county ride.

**MH fund updates:** Randy wrote checks last month for \$8000. to High Country Behavioral Health for 6-8 months of youth counseling services.

New team members asked for info on the MH fund. Trisha will bring the MH flyer to the County attorney's office to help people returning to Sublette from Title 25 brief hospitalization.

**Gunlocks message:** Melinda and Laurie recommended recent CDC and BBC data on youth firearm death on the gunlock/wrapper. Trisha and Peg are distributing locks to the clinic lobby and ER. Recommendation for the wrapper: get the sticker with the 988 info on the lock body, not on the wrapper. Wrapper can have "lock it up" with SPC and SCSO logos" printed on. Conversation with graphic design after the meeting discouraged a zip tie approach as that would deter people from using the locks by having 2 more steps to using the locks for what they are intended for.

Adjourn formal meeting 1:15.