

OHIO'S VOICE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION



Ohio's Voice for Suicide Prevention

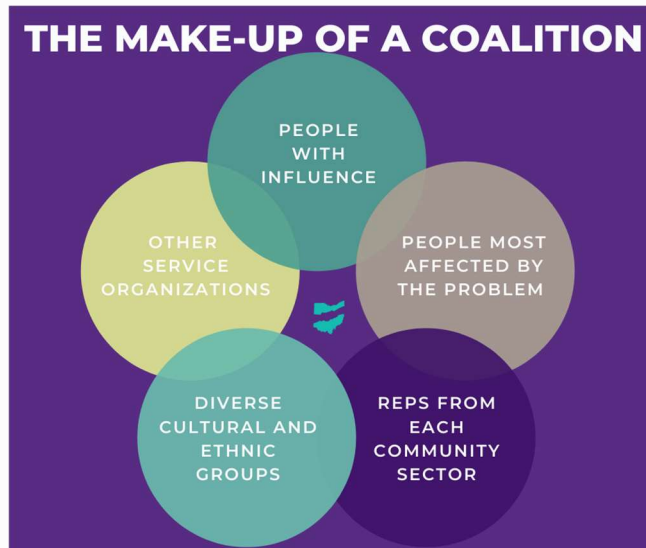
June 2024

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THE MAKE-UP OF A COALITION



Hello Coalition Leaders,

Welcome to your monthly newsletter designed just for you, our phenomenal coalition leaders. Below you will find relevant training and information.

Erie County Relaunches Suicide Prevention Coalition

Erie County recently relaunched its Suicide Prevention Coalition under the direction of the Erie County ADAMHS Board. On May 1st, representatives from law enforcement, mental health agencies, schools, HR, businesses, and higher education met to discuss community-based suicide prevention and the coalition's role. The meeting focused on defining the coalition and its purpose in education and advocacy. Cheryl Huss, the coalition chair, presented local loss data and addressed myths about suicide that hinder help-seeking.

Following the initial meeting, a workgroup began developing the coalition's structure and created a mission statement: "To decrease suicide attempts and deaths in Erie County through collaboration, advocacy, education, training, and evaluation." With this relaunch, 82 of Ohio's 88 counties now have an active suicide prevention coalition or subcommittee.

New Innovative Tool Generates Customized

988 Materials for Ohio Communities

Just ahead of the two-year anniversary of the launch of the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline in Ohio, a new tool has been created to allow anyone throughout the state to design free, customized 988 materials that can be shared within their communities.

Ohio's new OHIO988 Materials Generator makes spreading awareness about the 988 Crisis Lifeline easier than ever. This free tool lets anyone create custom handouts, posters, and social media graphics in minutes. Just answer a few questions to pick your language (English or Spanish), tailor messaging, choose a format (handout, poster, etc.), and add logos or contact info. A video tutorial showing how to use the Materials Generator is available [HERE](#).



Ohioans can also access the [988 Ohio Toolkit](#), continually updated with downloadable fact sheets, posters, logos, and social media shareables.

The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline was launched nationwide on July 16, 2022. Ohioans who are experiencing a mental health or addiction crisis and their family members are able to call or text 988 or chat 988Lifeline.org to reach a trained call specialist who can offer help and support. Learn more about Ohio's suicide prevention efforts by visiting 988.ohio.gov.

July Training with You Thrive Training and Consulting:

Please join us Thursday, July 25th, from 2-3:30 for *The Intersection Between Suicide Prevention & Other Types of Prevention*.

As a new and emerging field, suicide prevention currently lacks a historic evolution when compared to the alcohol and drug prevention field, as well as the formal theories and methodologies that guide its work. But so much learning can come from a deliberate and inquisitive examination of the intersection where these two fields merge.



This session will highlight the commonalities between these two prevention focus areas and how all suicide prevention professionals can utilize research-based theories and models proven to produce positive outcomes. Attendees will learn to apply prevention best practices models to their work in suicide prevention.

[Register Here](#)



Upcoming Webinar for OSPF Members

The presentation will introduce the Employee Benefits Security Administration by describing its mission, structure, what they do, and how it can support behavioral health providers, advocates, and families navigating behavioral health insurance benefits. The presenters will explain that the law they enforce, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, was amended by the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA). The presenters will provide a brief background on and general requirements of MHPAEA, focusing on non-quantitative treatment limitations. The presenters will explain specific areas of focus in MHPAEA enforcement work. The presentation will also describe how to contact their agency with questions or concerns if a patient or family member has been denied treatment or care through insurance benefits.

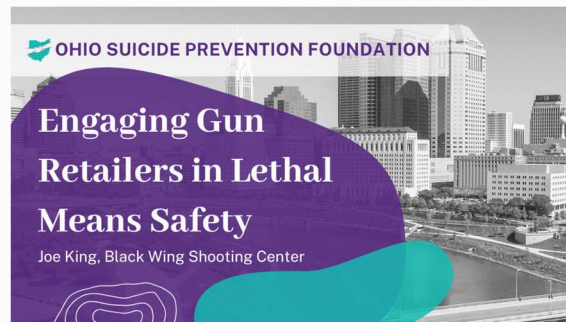
Registration is free. An application for Continuing Education for prevention specialists, counselors, social workers, and psychologists has been submitted (**OSPF members only**).

If you have any questions, contact Megan.rowe@OhioSPF.org.

[Register Here](#)

Engaging Gun Retailers in Lethal Means Safety

In OSPF's May webinar, Joe King, Director of Shooting Sports at Black Wing Shooting Center, and OSPF's Daniel Bennett discussed how gun retailers can support lethal means safety involving firearms. They explored why gun retailers care about this issue, how to engage gun retailers and gun owners as part of the solution, and how OSPF's Life Side Ohio can support local efforts to reduce firearms-related suicides. Watch the recording below!



[Watch Here](#)

Voices for Suicide Prevention

Did you know that 50% of mental illnesses start by age 14? That's why early diagnosis and breaking stigmas are crucial. This month on Voices for Suicide Prevention, we chat with leaders from two Ohio County Suicide Prevention Coalitions!

Hear how Colleen & Elena from Montgomery & Stark Counties are building awareness & support in their communities. Listen below.



[Listen Here](#)

OSPF Events

The Midwest Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Summit

Join us for The Midwest Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Summit at the **Greater Columbus Convention Center on October 17-18, 2024!**

This two-day in-person summit will focus on providers of suicide prevention across the Midwest, from coalitions and organizations dedicated to preventing suicide and promoting mental health wellness, prevention professionals, healthcare professionals, veteran-serving organizations, state and community leaders, and others dedicated to community solutions to address the public health problem of suicide and mental health.



Learn more about the event and register using the link below.

[Register Here](#)



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