



COVID-19 Behavioral Health Task Force

January 15, 2021



Welcome to Behavioral Task Force Meeting

- ❖ You were automatically muted upon entry.
- ❖ Please keep yourself on mute throughout the meeting to limit feedback.
- ❖ Do not put us on hold.
- ❖ To unmute your line - click on the microphone icon or press “*6” on your phone.
- ❖ Please use the chat feature for questions.

Thank you.

Behavioral Health Task Force Agenda

- ❖ Housekeeping: Lauren Prole
- ❖ Welcome: Dr. Sara Salek
- ❖ AHCCCS Update: Dr. Sara Salek
- ❖ ADHS Update: Teresa Ehnert
- ❖ Peer to Peer Educator Program & Social Connectedness Campaign: Kelli Williams
- ❖ Southern Arizona Update: Dr. Sandy Stein
- ❖ CISM Implementation: Johnnie Gasper
- ❖ Questions, Open Discussion & Wrap-Up: All

AHCCCS Update

Dr. Sara Salek
Chief Medical Officer
AHCCCS

ADHS Update

Teresa Ehnert

Bureau Chief, Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Health Emergency Operation Center/ ESF8

PHEP/HPP Director, Arizona

Peer to Peer Educator Program

Kelli Donley Williams, MPH

AHCCCS

Reaching Educators

- ISA with ADHS
- Similar to peer-to-peer project for physicians

The Educator Peer Support Program (or “Program”) will provide Arizona Educators with easy and discreet access to trained peer coaches who can provide prompt consultation and short-term support, as well as connection to mental health professionals who can provide confidential referrals.

Peer-to-Peer for Educators

Program aims to reduce barriers to care, connect Educators to trained peer coaches, provide customized referrals for psychological support, increase psychological well being, and support peak performance for individual Educators.

Timeline: Train in February-early March, launch mid-March

Contact: Brian Planty brian.planty@azahcccs.gov

Social Connectedness Partnership Program

Kelli Donley Williams, MPH

AHCCCS

Social Connectedness

In partnership with ADHS

Contact: Wayne Tormala wayne.tormala@azdhs.gov

Social support and **connection** are key **protective factors** against suicide. Positive and supportive **social** relationships and **community connections** can help buffer the effects of **risk factors** in people's lives.

We all play a role!

The CDC defines connectedness as “the degree to which a person or group is socially close, interrelated, or shares resources with other persons or groups.”¹

Connectedness can include:¹

- Connectedness between individuals (e.g., friends, neighbors, co-workers)
- Connectedness among family members
- Connectedness to community organizations (e.g., schools, faith communities)
- The connection of groups (e.g., minority groups) to their cultural traditions and history

Connectedness and support can be enhanced through social programs directed at specific groups (such as older adults or LGBT youth), as well as through activities that support the development of positive and supportive communities.

Positive and supportive social relationships and community connections can help buffer the effects of risk factors in people’s lives.

Two Tactics

Social media campaign in English and Spanish will:

1. Be upbeat and lighthearted -- messages about sense of belonging
2. More serious -- messages about the health effects of loneliness

Expected to launch in March

Southern Arizona Update

Dr. Sandy Stein

CMO

Banner University Health Plans

CISM Review

Johnnie Gasper

AzCH

CISM Review



Week 1

- December 28th, 2020 COVID-19 Unit supported every other day from 1pm-4pm and 12am-4am
- December 29th, 2020 Emergency Department supported every other day 1pm-4pm and 12am-4am
- ICU provided one time CISM support on December 28th 2020

Week 2

- January 4th, 2021 COVID 19 Unit supported every other day 1pm-4pm (one 12am-4am shift completed January 4th)
- January 5th, 2021 Emergency Department Unit supported every other day 1pm-4pm

CISM Review Cont'd



Week 3

- January 11th, 2021 Monday Wednesday Friday rotation between all units 1pm-4pm
 - Supporting team members on the floor engaging with all frontline workers
 - Promoting the idea that both ICU, ED, and COVID-19 units can access service whenever worker is onsite regardless of housed office location

Began “Meet Me Where I Am” approach

- CHA support line opened for 24/7 calls from frontline hospital workers
- Responses now provided outside of the hospital 24/7
- Onsite shift rotation promotes usage of “on call” CISM to better meet need
 - Front line workers asking if they could come in on days off to receive support
 - Identification of difficulty meeting with support workers during shifts



Questions, Open Discussion & Wrap Up

Next Meeting - January 29th

Thank You.

See the Behavioral Health Task Force web page for meeting past meeting presentations -
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/CommitteesAndWorkgroups/BehavioralHealthTaskForce.html>

Send future topics you want to discuss to lauren.prole@azahcccs.gov