

## **Summary of Suicide Prevention Oversight Committee (SPOC) Meeting November 18, 2011**

Ten SPOC members and one staff person attended the meeting. Vic Ojakian, the chair of SPOC facilitated the meeting. The presentation and the handouts are attached for your reference. The discussion is summarized below:

1. As the co-chair of the data workgroup along with Jo Coffaro, Dr Shashank Joshi provided an update for this workgroup composed of members from 13 different organizations. The group has agreed on common county-wide definitions for suicide death and attempt. The group is working towards sharing data amongst agencies. Developing standardized protocols for post-suicide psychological autopsy will be a focus of this group.
2. For the intervention workgroup, Michael Donohue of Kara gave an update. Because of the volume of tasks to be accomplished and to keep the momentum, the group has decided to hold monthly meetings. This will allow members to network better and also work on their work-plan during the scheduled meeting times. Mr. Donohue said that the group will work on three targeted activities for different age groups, Suicide prevention week in Sept 2012, and Suicide free new-year's eve event. Several members objected to the last point as this may trigger more suicides. The consensus was that no specific day should be singled out like this. The intervention workgroup had also discussed effective messaging through a slogan such as "Live On," which received positive comments from several SPOC members.
3. For the Policy and Governance Advocacy workgroup, Vic Ojakian provided an update. San Jose rules committee has recently unanimously approved a resolution to support County's Suicide prevention plan.
4. The Annual Report on Suicide Prevention Plan to be submitted to Board of Supervisors in Dec 2011 was discussed in details. Overall, members approved of the contents and the format. Several modifications were suggested, which were incorporated and the updated report is enclosed.
5. Mike Torres of Council on Aging, Silicon Valley (COASV) provided an update on the Senior Peer Advocate Program, which is being funded by COASV. The focus is to train volunteer advocates from different cultures speaking different languages on resources available in the county so that they can, in turn, help the seniors in their community. The first batch of advocates was trained in October 2011. New batches are expected to be trained every month.
6. An update on QPR online training was provided. The training is being customized for the County, and demographic information is now asked of trainees so that reports can be provided later. The program is going through beta testing: As of 11/16/11, approximately 125 people have been sent personalized access codes and 60 have completed their training. In future, QPR training can be offered to Senior Peer Advocates. NAMI would like to train its volunteers, and offer group training to people who take NAMI courses.
7. A copy of proposed letter to Cal-Train on behalf of SPOC that has been approved by County Counsel was distributed and discussed. Members gave positive feedback on it and requested some changes.

8. An update on other outreach and training activities for the suicide prevention program was provided.

November 18, 2011 was the last meeting of the year. SPOC will next meet on Friday, January 20, 2012, 9-11am.