

SSPS Core Advisory

February 24, 2022, 12:00-1:00

Zoom

Attendees:

- Jill Baker, Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator, OHA
- Grace Bullock, Senior Mental Health Officer, ODE
- Spencer Delbridge, Student Safety Program Coordinator, ODE
- Amber Eaton, Executive Director, OAESD
- Shanda Hochstetler, Youth Suicide Prevention Coordinator, ODE
- Deb Lange, Assistant Superintendent of OEDI, ODE
- Annette Marcus, Policy Manager, Oregon Alliance to Prevent Suicide
- Dave Novotney, Superintendent, Willamette ESD / Interim Superintendent, Newberg Public Schools

Unable to attend:

- Winston Cornwall, Civil Rights Specialist, ODE
- Kati Moseley, Ready Schools Resiliency Manager, ODE
- Carmen Xiomara Urbina, Deputy Director, ODE

Guests:

- Kara Boulahanis, Community Engagement & Wellness Specialist, ODE
- Laura Lien, Director of OEDI, ODE
- Tina Meikhail, Community Wellness Advocate, ODE
- Arden Robinette, Administrative Specialist, ODE

[Agenda](#)

[Slides](#)

Notes:

- Introductions
- Leave Plan Coverage
 - Spencer Delbridge presented plan for coverage during his family leave
- Interagency Agreement

- Kara Boulahanis presented overview of interagency agreement between ODE and OHA providing funding for suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention activities
 - Ongoing IAA activities:
 - 4 School Suicide Prevention and Wellness Specialists
 - 1 School Suicide Prevention and Wellness Program Manager
 - Regional approach to technical assistance
 - Ongoing collaboration and coordination:
 - Between ODE, OHA, and Lines for Life
 - Between SSPS and SSPW teams
 - SSPS / SSPW strategic planning sessions
 - Updated Step-by-Step Guide
 - New IAA activities:
 - Adi's Act audit
 - Co-development of evaluation criteria for Adi's Act plans
 - Evaluation of all 197 district Adi's Act plans against the developed evaluation criteria
 - Once the evaluation is complete, we will use the results to allocate supports to districts in order to improve their Adi's Act plans, which will include:
 - An Adi's Act manual for the SSPS and SSPW teams
 - Targeted technical assistance from both SSPS and SSPW teams in alignment with their regional strategic plan
- Participant question: Who will be doing the audit?
 - Answer: evaluation criteria will be developed jointly with Lines for Life taking point, and from there the SSPW team will be doing the review against the evaluation criteria
- Participant comment: Hope this audit will show us things about ODE and OHA as well, and what gaps we are seeing
- Participant comment: question about evaluation impact and how evaluation will assess implementation / outcomes
- Participant comment: concern around the phrase "audit" - this will be a review of plans across the state, including strengths and gaps, correct?
 - Will be used to guide technical assistance at the district level?
 - Answer: yes, and we have also used the phrase gap analysis. This is not a Secretary of State audit and will not be published publicly. We do not want districts to fear reprisal
- Participant comment: recently heard from a district that was not aware of the mental health resources available to them (such as Lines for Life and Sources of Strength). Hope we can increase and support dissemination of existing resources
 - ODE will be launching the next iteration of the Care and Connection Campaign and hope to share these resources

- Also funding Strengthening Mental Health in Education 2.0 Initiative with ESSER III funding
 - Would recommend working with Systems Capacity & Improvement team, who will be putting out an RFP soon
 - Hope our evaluations are aligned and working towards similar objectives
- Participant comment: gratitude for technical assistance structure and setting goals of connecting the work
- Safe and Inclusive Schools team will be updating website to share more resources
- Oregon School Suicide Prevention Project
 - Kara Boulahanis prevented overview of OSSPP
 - ODE, OHA, Lines for Life, and University of Oregon Suicide Prevention Lab
 - “Deep dive” evaluation of school suicide prevention efforts at 8 school sites
 - 3 years, extending through 2023-2024 school year
 - Activities include:
 - School Suicide Prevention Implementation Systems Inventory
 - Network Improvement Collaborative
 - Technical assistance, surveys, work sessions, focus groups, and other supports
- Questions
 - Participant asked: The OSSPP evaluation will occur based on what schools are already implementing to prevent youth suicide?
 - Answer: Yes, and we will take that information to try to improve their existing implementation. Uplift what is already occurring and provide targeted technical assistance.
 - Participant asked: How are schools being selected?
 - Answer: Have already been selected based on geographic location, size of school, type of school, personal relationships with school staff, and cultural and linguistic diversity of school
 - Participant asked: In the IAA, is there any criteria for keeping SSPW positions staffed?
 - Answer: The SSPW team is fully staffed right now, and the region division has been updated to more evenly balance workload
 - Participant shared that school sites may be changing
 - Participant shared that they believe those schools will sign back on because of the services they will be receiving
 - Participant shared that the findings of the project will likely be published