

Coalition Worksheet for Youth Suicide Prevention Task Force

Please complete as much as possible and submit to Crystal.Moe@ag.ks.gov

Name of your organization:	American Association of Suicidology
Best Contact Information to be Publically Shared:	Name: Chris Maxwell Email: cmaxwell@suicidology.org Website: suicidology.org Phone: 913-775-2293
Purpose of your organization:	To promote the understanding and prevention of suicide and support those who have been affected by it.
What efforts have proven to be successful in your purpose to address youth suicide:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Adolescent DBT (doesn't scale well, need more mental health professionals trained in it, increase access to this treatment) 2) Zero Suicide Initiative (Legislation in LA & CO; assigning full-time suicide prevention coordinator) 3) Followup post-discharge from healthcare settings
What hurdles have you experienced and/or lessons learned through your efforts:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lack of adequate funding for outcomes-based research. 2) Many unanswered questions due to unfunded research and epidemiology, at state, national, and global levels 3) Professionals and media tell "stories" about suicide regarding things like bullying or social media due to lack of good science. We feel like we need a "magic solution" instead of looking for true causes through research.

Recommendations or suggestions for the task force to consider:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Increased support of crisis centers (Headquarters Counseling Center for KS) (60% increase in calls during 2018)2) Involve youth, parents, and schools in gatekeeper training (with solid evidence-base; it's not sufficient to just raise awareness).3) Increased and consistent education of administration leadership, school mental health professionals, parents, all school staff (Suicide in Schools)4) Improve State data pipelines and communications about state suicide and youth suicide data. (Data on attempts, deaths, ideation, etc.)5) Once data is collected, provide said data and fund outcomes-based research based on it. World class researchers, many AAS members, are eager to access data.6) Updated State Strategy7) Fund full-time Suicide Prevention Coordinator (to help collect data - faster than CDC - and target implementation; Montana as example)8) Standardized state-wide psych autopsies
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Thank you!