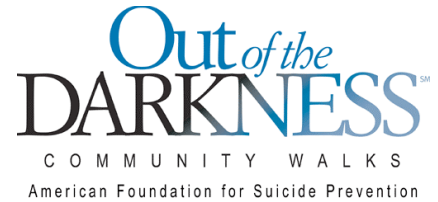


SUSTAINABLE SUICIDE PREVENTION IS COMING TO THE BLACK HILLS



Black Hills Area Survivors of Suicide (BHASOS)

- Provides support group meetings in Rapid City (since 1990) to help survivors of suicide loss cope with their grief. BHASOS support group facilitators are trained by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.
- Sponsors AFSP's National Survivor of Suicide Day gathering in Rapid City (since 2000), which has been attended by about 300 survivors over the years.
- Is starting up two new support groups beginning in the fall of 2009, one in Hot Springs and one in the Northern Hills.

Unified Community Solutions (UCS)

- Supervises the West River operations of the S.D. Suicide Awareness Partnership (see below).
- Manages implementation of the South Dakota Strategy for Suicide Prevention.
- Publishes "Suicide Prevention News and Comment," the Internet magazine for communities, which covers the suicide prevention movement in the U.S. (<http://tinyurl.com/SPNAC-about>).
- Delivers AFSP training nationally for the Suicide Survivor Support Group Facilitator Program, including in Rapid City, 2007, and Sioux Falls, 2009, and for the Survivor Outreach Program.
- Serves in an advisory role with the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (800-273-TALK).
- Serves in an advisory role with AFSP's Survivor Council and its Chapter Leadership Council.
- Worked with the Board of Directors of the Suicide Prevention Action Network, 2003–2009.
- Managed the Front Porch Coalition (see below), 2001–2005.

Front Porch Coalition (FPC)

- Provides outreach to survivors of suicide loss, beginning in 2002 through Advocates for Families and Friends after Suicide and, since 2004, through the Pennington County Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Teams.
- Sponsors annual training opportunities, most recently the "Sources of Strength" mentoring program for Rapid City Area Schools and the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's "Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk" for clinicians.
- Implemented RealSad.com (no longer a live website), a social marketing campaign designed to reduce the stigma related to help-seeking for depression among males 15–55, which delivered almost 1,400 online mental health screenings (2004–2005).

S.D. Suicide Awareness Partnership (SAP)

SAP is a S.D. Division of Mental Health project being implemented in 21 S.D. high schools and two universities under the State/Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention Program (federal funding is expected to continue through May 2010).

- Employing a full-time suicide prevention specialist in a Rapid City office (since January 2007).
- Implementing the four-session Lifelines suicide prevention curriculum the following Black Hills high schools: Sturgis, Spearfish, Lead-Deadwood, Hill City, Custer, Hot Springs, Edgemont, Oelrichs, and Rapid City Academies.
- Delivering a two-day Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) to caregivers (more than 350 have been trained in the Black Hills).
- Delivered a two-day culturally focused workshop, "Lakota Perspectives on Mental Health and Suicide," to more than 150 caregivers in the Black Hills.
- Trained 50 Black Hills caregivers in the Working Together workshop on how communities can effectively collaborate and communicate for effective suicide prevention
- Working through continued partnerships with Black Hills prevention groups. A few examples:
 - Community Services Connection of the Black Hills in Rapid City
 - Action for the Betterment of the Community (ABC) in Sturgis
 - Custer All-Drug in Custer
 - John T. Vucurevich Foundation's initiative for mental health/substance abuse collaboration
 - Division of Mental Health's systems of care pilot project in Rapid City