On Friday, January 29th, the Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition held a Suicide Prevention Summit. The event was hosted by BryanLGH Medical Center in Lincoln with 25 sites across the state participating via videoconference through the Nebraska Statewide Telehealth Network. The goal of the event was to provide an overview of suicide as a public health concern in Nebraska, present opportunities to discuss local needs related to suicide prevention, and featured an introduction to best practices in suicide prevention.

Participants at the Summit included community members, professionals, suicide survivors, youth and adults interested in promoting suicide prevention practices in their communities.

The keynote speaker of the Summit was Tom Osborne, Athletic Director of the University of Nebraska. He emphasized the importance of suicide prevention in youth, and described mentoring as a great way to reach out to foster children and other at-risk groups. Dr. Osborne shared how suicides of a childhood friend and a football player had impacted his own life.

Later presentations focused on evidence-informed practices in suicide prevention. Over a working lunch participants discussed what their communities were doing now and could do in the future to prevent suicide. The Summit ended with information for groups interested in applying for seed grants to promote youth suicide prevention in their area.

More information on suicide prevention in Nebraska can be found at www.suicideprevention.nebraska.edu.
Quick Reminder for ATAP-GP Guests

Guests are welcomed by the Great Plains Chapter of the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals (ATAP), but national bylaws limit visits of guests to two meetings before applying for membership. A current member of ATAP must serve as your host for the ATAP GP meeting and can help you navigate the membership process. If you are a guest please visit ATAP website for details about membership, and download the application. The application must be signed by a current ATAP member and is submitted via the local chapter.

The ATAP website is found at: www.atapworldwide.org.

QPR Suicide Training Event

On January 27, the Nebraska Suicide Prevention Project held a QPR Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention Training. The training was held at the Nebraska Educational Television Event Room in Lincoln.

QPR stands for “Question, Pursue, and Refer” - three steps anyone can learn to help prevent suicide. It is an emergency response to someone in crisis and can change lives.

The training helps gatekeepers detect signs of suicide and to intervene.

Contact Dr. Kate Speck to arrange a QPR training for your group. kspeck2@nebraska.edu

Contribute to the Newsletter!

Would you would like to contribute to the next CTAP newsletter? If you want to highlight an area of threat assessment or have an idea for a relevant article, the CTAP newsletter is a great way to share it with others. If you want to submit a short article of approximately 150-400 words, please email it to Sarah Norris at sarahnorris@nebraska.edu by April 1st for review and the possibility of inclusion in the next or upcoming issues.
Creating layers of security around a Principal can boost security. The number of layers developed depends on manpower, resources, as well as possible threats. Various formations of Protective Detail that are chosen depending on the context of the situation and whether the detail is high or low profile.

Post secondary campuses are often hosts to high profile guests who bring their Protective Details with them. Much of the preparation for Protective Detail Operations is done ahead of time, behind-the-scenes. Campus threat assessment teams can help make the work of Protective Details easier by being prepared to assist with information about the campus physical plant, roadways, foot traffic and security options.

If a high profile person is coming to your campus, it is a good opportunity to remind all faculty and staff about campus security measures. It is a good time for everyone on campus to check locks on the doors to their areas and ensure routine security practices are followed in every department.

Campus threat assessment teams should be ready to cooperate with Protective Details to ensure visitors, faculty, staff and students are aware of any special circumstances that may accompany the visit of a high profile guest. For example, letting people know in advance that changes in their routine for the day may be required to ensure everyone is safe.

Information from Don Buettner’s presentation was used to compile this article.
For more information, please visit the Nebraska Threat Assessment Website:

http://ppcta.unl.edu