

REPORT TO THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
STATE OF HAWAII
2008

PURSUANT TO PART III, SECTION 35 OF THE GENERAL APPROPRIATION ACT OF 2007 (ACT 213), SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2007, REQUIRING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO ESTABLISH AND IMPLEMENT A SUICIDE EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAM AND PREPARE AND SUBMIT A DETAILED REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE TO INCLUDE EXPENDITURES AND ALL ACTIVITIES PERFORMED.

PREPARED BY:
STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
October 2007

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with Part III, section 35 of The General Appropriations Act of 2007 (Act 213), Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, that requires the Department of Health to establish and implement a suicide early intervention and prevention program and prepare and submit a detailed report to include expenditures and all activities performed, the Department is submitting this report to the 2008 Legislature. This report outlines the budget for FY 2008, the expenditures for the period July 1, 2007 through October 12, 2007, and the activities being conducted or planned.

The Department of Health's Suicide Prevention Program, with a focus on youth suicide prevention, is under the Injury Prevention and Control Section (**IPCS**) of the Emergency Medical Services and Injury Prevention System Branch. There is one FTE Suicide Prevention Coordinator position dedicated to suicide prevention. IPCS works closely with other programs in the Department (Adult Mental Health Division, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division, and Family Health Services Division, Maternal and Child Health Branch), its community and agency partners and professionals in the field.

The Program is developing, implementing and evaluating strategies to prevent suicide among youth and all other ages. These include 1) identifying and assessing the suicide risk of youths and other individuals referred to the program; 2) creating public awareness by building community networks and providing information to the target groups; and 3) referring the youths and other individuals to resources at the appropriate level of care needed.

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In accordance with PART III, SECTION 35 of the General Appropriations Act (Act 213), Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, requiring the Department of Health to establish and implement a suicide early intervention and prevention program and prepare and submit a detailed report to include expenditures and all activities performed, the Department is submitting a report to the 2008 Legislature. This report outlines the budget for FY 2008, the expenditures for the period July 1, 2007 through October 12, 2007, and the activities being conducted or planned.

The General Appropriations Act of 2007 directs the department as follows:

SECTION 35: Provided that of the general fund appropriation for emergency medical services and injury prevention system (HTH 730), the sum of \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 shall be expended to establish a suicide early intervention and prevention program with an emphasis on the youth population; provided further that this program shall include other individual age groups; provided further that these funds shall be expended by the department of health; provided further that the suicide early intervention and prevention program shall develop strategies to prevent suicide that address youth and all other ages; provided further that the strategies developed by the department shall include but not be limited to the following: (1) Identifying and assessing the risk of youth and other individuals referred to the program; (2) Creating public awareness by building community networks and providing information to the target groups; and (3) Referring the youth and other individuals to resources at the appropriate level of care needed; provided further that the department shall prepare a detailed report to include expenditures and all activities performed; and provided further that the department shall submit the report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008 and 2009 regular sessions.

In response to this request, the Department of Health provides this report of expenditures and all activities performed for FY 2007 – 2008.

I. Activities Performed.

Referring youths and other individuals to resources at the appropriate level of care.

The Department of Health Injury Prevention and Control Section (IPCS) has used the Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) model to train “Gatekeepers” and ASIST trainers. ASIST is a program of Livingworks that has been working with communities for over 25 years. The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention lists ASIST in the

Registry of Evidence-Based Suicide Prevention Programs for Suicide Prevention.

Gatekeepers are individuals in a community or organization who have face-to-face contact with large numbers of people as part of their routine; they may be trained to identify persons at risk of suicide and refer them to treatment or supporting services as appropriate. Activities accomplished include:

- The Department's Injury Prevention and Control Section (IPCS) established in October 2006 a statewide system to train gatekeepers on each island to recognize and refer individuals at-risk for suicide to the appropriate level of care. From July through October 2007, the Department conducted two 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper Workshops on Oahu (total of 38 Gatekeepers trained) and one on Maui (24 Gatekeepers trained).
- **Planned:** Three more 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper Workshops have been planned and advertised for Big Island (November 1-2) and Oahu (November 29-30 and December 10-11). An estimated 96 additional gatekeepers will be trained.
- **Planned:** IPCS is currently organizing a Train-the-Trainer ASIST 5-day workshop in January 2008, which will be conducted by Livingworks, to train 15 individuals to be certified to conduct 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper Workshops in the community and within their organizations

Identifying and assessing the risk of youths and other individuals referred to the program.

- The Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) is institutionalizing 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper workshops for their staff. In a first step, nine AMHD staff statewide were trained on October 2-6, 2006 and certified to conduct the 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper workshops. On September 24-25, 2007, these AMHD trainers conducted a 2-day ASIST workshop and trained an additional twenty-eight AMHD staff in leadership positions. Included were the AMHD Medical Director, Medical Directors of East Honolulu, Central and Windward Mental Health Centers, Chief of Clinical Operations, Coordinators for Honolulu and Windward Clubhouses, Case Management Coordinators at Diamond Head Health Center and Kona, Case Management Coordinator, Crises Services Coordinator, and the Consumer Representative, among others.
- **Planned:** AMHD will continue to conduct 2-day ASIST Gatekeeper Workshops for their staff statewide.
- **Planned:** AMHD, in collaboration with IPCS, is designing an evaluation process that will help ensure smooth support and implementation of the training model, and will determine the impact of the staff training on referrals and incidences of suicide and suicide attempts in the AMHD system.

Creating public awareness.

- IPCS, in collaboration with the Suicide Prevention Task Force, organized and sponsored the first statewide Suicide Prevention Conference on November 15-16, 2007 at the Hilton Waikiki Prince Kuhio Hotel. Integrated into the conference is a focus on survivors and their issues. Three hundred health and social services workers, those affected by suicide, and the general public are expected to attend.

- IPCS developed an information packet for the press on the conference and suicide prevention. Press releases have been sent out and articles on the conference have appeared in the Honolulu Advertiser. Additional press coverage is being arranged.
- IPCS has collaborated with Mental Health America Hawaii and other Suicide Prevention Task Force members on a Faith-based Suicide Prevention Planning Committee to educate and increase their, the clergy's, skills in working with their parishioners. There are 25 clergy and faith-affiliated persons on this committee.
- **Planned:** IPCS will continue working with Mental Health America to support the Faith-based Suicide Prevention Planning Committee.

II. Expenditures: July 1 – September 30, 2007

<u>Items</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Two Dell Laptop computers for 2-day ASIST training	\$2,537.95
Dell Speakers for training computers	222.29
Flash drives (8)	272.95
Two Dell Projectors for training	2,626.77
Software – 2 Microsoft Office Pro packages	662.26
Software - 2 Microsoft Acrobat Pro	<u>462.62</u>
TOTAL	\$6,784.84