

NMSPC On-Line Newsletter

April, 2007

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Website News:

The New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition has received lots of positive feedback about our new website, www.nmsuicideprevention.org. Thanks to all who are emailing with suggestions and corrections. Keep the feedback coming. This is a continuing process.

Remember, the NMSPC grows more powerful as we grow in numbers, so take a minute to join the Coalition. Your support helps with this website and all the many things we are doing to help reduce the suicide rate in New Mexico. **Together we will save lives.**

Join The Coalition Today!!

www.nmsuicideprevention.org

Volunteers Needed:

We need Board members with skills!

The NMSPC is looking for additional members to our Board. As we grow, we realize we could really use some expertise in our group. We are looking for Board or Advisory Board members who have skills and knowledge in the following areas: Accounting, Law, Public Relations, Grant Writing/Fundraising.

Let us know if you may be interested in joining our Board or Advisory Board. If you want to help, but do not feel you have the time to join us officially, we would gratefully accept your assistance as your time allows.

We need Committee Members!

Recently, several members and supporters signed up to help further the NMSCPC mission by working on specific committees. Thank you to all who signed up! We are in the early stages of committee development, and need more committed volunteers. Many areas will not take up much time, just some early organizing and then time as needed.

The committees are:

Grants/Fundraising
Legislative
Advocacy
Education and Awareness

For more information about how to be an active participant in the Coalition, please e-mail Suzanne@nmsuicideprevention.org. Your talents and time will be put to good use. This Coalition is strong because of the work of all of our members and supporters. ***Thank-You!***

Legislative Update:

For information on the 2007 Legislative session go to our website:
www.nmsuicideprevention.org

It's always helpful to remind Governor Richardson and Department Of Health Secretary Michelle Lujan-Grisham that we appreciate all they have done for Youth Suicide Prevention efforts. A thank you goes a long way.

To find out more about your state senator and representative go to:
www.legis.state.nm.us or see the Coalition website at
www.nmsuicideprevention.org

Our day at the Roundhouse during the session was fun, well-attended, and worth every minute. Look for pictures coming soon to the website:
www.nmsuicideprevention.org

Advocacy Alert:

Recently, many mental health and suicide prevention groups have been calling for some advocacy around the release of a commercial film called: "Wristcutters: A Love Story" Much of the concern stems from the comical portrayal of suicide attempts. In addition, the filmmakers have indicated they plan to advertise the film using images of people hanging themselves and jumping off bridges.

[Click here to view an e-mail](#) from Mental Health America which highlights more about their concern and concern others have noted. Please take a few minutes to review this information and contact the organizations noted. No one from the NMSPC has seen the movie, we are simply relaying information we feel is relevant to the issue of suicide and suggest you make your own decision as to what action to take.

There is lots of helpful information on media coverage of suicide on the [SPRC.org](#) website. You can also access media coverage information via links on the Coalition website: www.nmsuicideprevention.org

Coalition Meeting:

The next full Coalition meeting will be on **May 23rd, 2007 in Santa Fe**. Location TBA. Keep an eye on the website for the location: www.nmsuicideprevention.org.

We have changed the time slightly to offer a longer meeting. 9:30am-12:30 pm Mark your calendar. Let Suzanne know if you have any suggestions or items you would like on the agenda. Suzanne@nmsuicideprevention.org

You can find minutes for the last meeting on our website.

Trainings:

Suicide Prevention workshops throughout the state are listed on the website. Be sure to keep an eye on these offerings and let us know of any that need to be posted. www.nmsuicideprevention.org

Dr. Dennis Embry will present a one day training May 22, 9am to 4pm in Santa Fe at the Community College. This presentation, "Syndemics,"

focuses on the connection between substance abuse and many other issues, including suicide.

For more information [please click here](#). You can also [click here for information about other free ATODA workshops](#).

We keep a list of workshops and conferences under "Find Out About Suicide Prevention Activities in Your Region of New Mexico" on our website. We list workshops and conferences that are directly and indirectly related to suicide prevention. We add to the list once a month, so make sure to get your listing to Suzanne@nmsuicideprevention.org way in advance.

Regional News:

The NMSPC, through the New Mexico Public Health Association and OSAH (Office of School and Adolescent Health), is still planning on holding 4 regional conferences before the end of June. Each will focus on Adult Suicide Prevention needs, and include a one day training, free, with CEU's. We will start with a Community Action evening meeting on suicide concerns in the area, and the next day will hold a Community Action Planning/ Coalition Building session for those interested in helping or already working on the issue in their region. Due to many factors, **dates have changed slightly, so please note the new dates** and let us know if you're interested in helping in any location.

Santa Rosa- May 17 & 18, 2007

Las Vegas-May 31&June 1, 2007

Farmington-June 21& 22, 2007

*Las Cruces date was in April, however we are changing that date to May or June.

Let me know if you interested in any of the above, and I will be sure you get information on location etc.

In addition, a Coalition Building Lunch will be held in Socorro-location TBA- May 11, 2007 from 12 noon to 2pm.

Please let me know if your interested in any of the above regional events:
Suzanne@nmsuicideprevention.org

Watch the website for updates, or get in touch with Suzanne.

We hope you find the information in our newsletters helpful. We have grown so much in a short time and continue to grow everyday. Thank you to all who have joined us as members. Your money is helping to support this site and all our suicide prevention activities.

Thank you for the work you do! Remember, we are all making a difference. Together we will save lives.