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OSPF
Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation
OhioSPF.org



Issue 2

OSPF Highlights Exciting News and Events Across Ohio!

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF) shares its second bimonthly newsletter for 2018, including coalition development, resources for you, & more!

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In the News: OSPF Board Chair Delivers Testimony on House Bill 503

On March 21st, 2018, OSPF Board Chair **Sandy Williams** testified in front of **The House Education and Career Readiness Committee** on the importance of suicide prevention training for staff & faculty in private schools. The proposed [House Bill 503](#) states that “Each chartered nonpublic school shall require any person employed by the governing authority of the school to work as a nurse, teacher, counselor, school psychologist, or administrator, and any other personnel that the governing authority determines appropriate to undergo training on youth suicide awareness and prevention programs **annually**”.

If the legislation passes, these suicide prevention trainings are to be delivered in the same manner as for employees of a public school per the [Jason Flatt Act \(House Bill 543\)](#), except the new requirement is to be fulfilled once a year. Sandy explained how OSPF’s programming and gatekeeper trainings have satisfied the requirements of the current Jason Flatt Act. **Representative Marlene Anielski** of Ohio’s 6th District, has been a leading sponsor in the Ohio House for suicide prevention legislation.



Sandy Williams Testifying Before The House Education and Career Readiness Committee on 3/21/18

OSPF Highlights Right Now: Stand Up Together Comedy Event Fundraiser

ComedyConnected, OSPF, and the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County's Suicide Prevention Coalition have teamed up to host a fundraiser in the Cleveland-area benefiting Ohio suicide prevention programming! Doors are open from 4pm-11pm on Saturday, July 21st!

Stand Up Together will feature 20 comedians throughout the night, with headliner **Bill Squire**, Co-host of the WMMS's Alan Cox Show, joining at 10pm! The night will create laughs *and* raise awareness of suicide prevention & mental health.



Purchase Tickets at StandUpTogetherOhio.Com. Each ticket includes entry to the show & 1 raffle ticket for Stand Up Together's big prize give away, including the chance to win a 2018 Ford Mustang! You can purchase additional raffle tickets: 1 for \$25 or 5 for \$100. Order now to save your seat, enter for a chance to win, & support suicide prevention! [#standuptogetherOH](https://twitter.com/standuptogetherOH)

OSPF Highlights Right Now: Coalition & LOSS Teams Mini Grants

OSPF has awarded numerous menu-driven mini grants to various suicide prevention coalitions and LOSS Teams across the State!



2018 Coalition Mini Grants

Congratulations to these counties with suicide prevention coalitions: Allen; Auglaize; Clark; Columbiana; Coshocton; Greene; Hardin; Lawrence; Licking; Lorain; Mahoning; Trumbull; Wood.



2018 LOSS Team Mini Grants

Congratulations to these counties with teams Providing Postvention Services: Allen, Auglaize, & Hardin; Athens & Hocking; Clark; Coshocton; Defiance, Fairfield; Franklin; Fulton, Henry, & Williams; Geauga; Licking; Logan & Cham-paign; Lorain; Muskingum; Ross; Tuscarawas & Carroll; Washington.

Resources for You: Guard Your Health Resource Network

Guard Your Health is a health and medical readiness campaign for Army National Guard Soldiers and their families sponsored by the Army National Guard Chief Surgeon's Office. Guard Your Health provides Army National Guard Soldiers with the information, motivation, and support to overcome challenges and make healthy decisions for themselves, their families, and their units. [Many mental health and suicide prevention resources](#) exist on the Community Support Network (CSN) section.

If your organization is interested in the opportunity to have a military service member/family listing on Guard Your Health's CSN page, please click [HERE](#) to learn more.

Community Spotlight: “Rock and Recovery” Online Radio Station

Rock and Recovery is a 24/7 online radio channel with upbeat rock songs and positive messages for people experiencing recovery from addiction, trauma, and mental health disruptions. [The Summit.fm](http://www.summit.fm) also broadcasts a 3 hour nightly Rock and Recovery show 10pm-1am on The Summit.fm at 91.3 FM in the Akron—Canton area, and 90.7 FM in Youngstown and Western Pennsylvania



Visit Rock and Recovery’s website to learn more: <http://www.rockandrecovery.com/>

Coalitions Corner: PreventionFIRST! Coalition Trainings

[PreventionFIRST!](#), a regional drug prevention coalition based out of Cincinnati, has partnered with OSPF to present 6 regional trainings for Ohio’s suicide prevention coalitions titled “Coalition Building: From Grassroots to Sustainability”.

The two-part skill building session uses a public health model/collective impact approach to teach coalitions the fundamental concepts of prevention, capacity building strategies, data and research application, non-profit governance, and budgeting & fundraising strategies. To date, 5 out of 6 regional trainings have been successfully completed in the following counties: Lucas, Ross, Summit, Franklin, Athens!

The remaining coalition training will be held in Lebanon Ohio on April 13th. [Visit the event webpage](#) to register for the training!

Community Spotlight: Screening of “Suicide: The Ripple Effect” Film

On March 25th, a special screening of *Suicide: The Ripple Effect* was hosted in Akron, OH, thanks to the tireless efforts made by Tracy Dawyduk, PsyD.

This film is a documentary about the life of **Kevin Hines, a well-respected speaker with lived experience who survived his suicide attempt at the age of 19.** Kevin has since become a world-renowned speaker and advocate of suicide prevention.



A sizable crowd of people attended the screening, and an informative Q&A session took place directly after the film with the involvement of community members and mental health professionals. Suicide prevention resources were available to all that attended.

If you are interested in hosting a screening of *Suicide: The Ripple Effect* in your area, please contact Tracy Dawyduk at tmdawydukpsyd@gmail.com.

LOSS Corner: Postvention Article, Suicide Cluster Resources, & More

Excerpt from The Newark Advocate- “Despite Suicides, There is Hope” by: Penny Sitler, Executive Director of MHA Licking County.



Image Obtained from The [Newark Advocate](#)

[Mental Health America \(MHA\)](#)—[Licking County](#) facilitates our LOSS Team and we have been much too busy so far in 2018.

Multiple young people in their 20’s from several Licking County communities have taken their own lives since the new year began. Any suicides are too many, but to lose so many in such a short time, whether we knew the young people or not, leaves us all with a terrible sadness and sense of regret.

The Licking Valley community convened a vigil to celebrate the lives of three graduates in their 20’s who took their lives within a four-day period. Kudos to Licking Valley schools and those who organized the vigil for giving people that safe place to be a part of something larger than themselves. I also applaud them for allowing those of us in the mental health world to provide resources to those in attendance.

You can find the full article [HERE](#). Additionally, OSPF is providing a list of evidence-based Postvention resources. The resource list [HERE](#) provides direction and steps to take following a youth suicide in your community

Additional LOSS Announcements from Denise-Meine Graham, Founder and Executive Director of Franklin County LOSS:

1. Franklin County LOSS and OSPF commend **Lorain County and the 6-County region (Muskingum ,Coshocton, Guernsey, Perry, Morgan & Noble)** for their tremendous progress towards launching LOSS Teams!
2. Thank you to all the participants who were part of the first Franklin County LOSS 3-week Lunch & Learn series about Companioning Suicide Loss Survivors! Stay tuned for additional Lunch & Learns later this year!

John Draper, Ph.D, Director of [The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#), delivered an outstanding and informative presentation on Safe Suicide Prevention Messaging at the 2018 SAMHSA GLS Grantee Meeting in Washington, DC on March 21st. OSPF appreciated the opportunity to hear Dr. Draper speak! [#BeThe1To](#)

If you or a loved one is experiencing severe mental health distress or thoughts of suicide, do not hesitate to call The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at **1-800-273-TALK (8255)**.

