

Meeting Minutes

Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention

Date: February 3, 2025

Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location: Virtual via ZoomGov

Call to Order, Roll Call

Attendees

Members in attendance: Dean Sidelinger, Valerie Colas, Donna-Marie Drucker, Paul Kemp, Kathleen Carlson, Emmy Ritter, Matthew Crabtree, Andrew White, Jerome Sloan II

Staff in attendance: Toni Kemple, Daisy Mitchell

Members not in attendance: Vanessa Timmons, Andy Leonard, Chris Burley, James Dixon, Senator Floyd Prozanski, Senator David Brock Smith, Rep Jason Kropf, Rep. Rick Lewis

SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS:

The meeting was recorded in full and is available online at the Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention website: [Task Force on Community Safety and Firearm Suicide Prevention - Oregon Department of Justice](#)

PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation - *Video time stamp 0:02:52*

PowerPoint presentation, "Firearms, Injury Prevention, and Suicide" A perspective on why a public health approach has not been effective in addressing firearm injury, by Jeffery Sung, M.D., University of Washington Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Brett Bass, Safer Homes, Suicide Aware Program Coordinator, a program housed within the University of Washington.

- The intent of the presentation. (*see video time stamp 0:08:00*)
 - Conceptual clarity: Firearms, injury prevention, and suicide
 - Precision in language: Fatal and non-fatal firearm injury attributable to suicide, self-harm, homicide, assault, and unintentional acts.
 - Cultural alignment: Dignity, respect, and compassion in policies, programs, and practices
 - Collaboration: Working together on the problem.
- Linking Public Safety and Public Health Data for Firearm Suicide Prevention in Utah (Barber, et al., 2019) (*see video time stamp 0:08:00*)
 - Data (*see video time stamp 0:10:01*)

- Risk Factors
 - Warning signs
 - Protective factors
- Policy Implications *(see video time stamp 0:10:30)*
 - Wellness & Resilience
 - Support services
 - Clinical services
- State Actions *(see video time stamp 0:11:16)*
 - Enactment
- What did Utah come up with regarding legal ownership; concealed carry; history of hospital care; arguments; and rural counties? *(see video time stamp 0:11:16)*
- Introduction *(see video time stamp 0:19:00)*
 - “Gun policy debates are highly polarized in the United States.” (Rand, 2021)
 - On the limitations of the “public health approach” *(see video time stamp 0:23:25)*
- Firearms & Firearm Injury
 - What is a “firearm”? *(see video time stamp 0:24:53)*
 - “Firearm” or “gun”? *(see video time stamp 0:25:15)*
 - Handguns / Long guns *(see video time stamp 0:26:06)*
 - ~400,000,000 privately owned firearms in the U.S. *(see video time stamp 0:27:24)*
 - Reasons for Ownership
 - Values & Symbolism
 - Firearm Injuries – Fatal and Hospital-Treated Non-Fatal Firearm Injury, 2020
- Approaches to Injury Prevention *(see video time stamp 0:31:34)*
 - Fatal and Non-Fatal Firearm Injury; Three E’s of Injury Prevention; and Social-Ecological Model
 - Physician Responsibilities in Injury Prevention *(see video time stamp 0:34:48)*
- Policy & Clinical Care
 - Clinical care
 - Why Counseling Parents on Guns Doesn’t Work: *Why don’t they get it?* (Brent, et al., 2000 & Christoffel, 2000) *(see video time stamp 0:36:40)*
 - Policy
 - Background Checks *(see video time stamp 0:39:15)*
 - What is Safety? (Pruitt, Sung & Walker, 2022) *(see video time stamp 0:41:00)*
- Cultural Factors *(see video time stamp 0:42:31)*
 - Bias, Ethnocentrism, Implicit Beliefs
 - Bradford Hill’s Criteria for Causation (1965)
 - Guns, Gun violence, Gun violence prevention, Gun Safety, Safe storage, Common sense, Common sense laws *(see video time stamp 0:46:56)*
- Suicide Prevention *(see video time stamp 0:50:30)*
 - Comprehensive Approach for Suicide Prevention
 - Leadership

- Wellness & Resilience
 - Support Services
- Upstream, Midstream, Downstream Approaches (*see video time stamp 0:54:20*)
- ESB 1530 (*see video time stamp 0:55:00*)
 - Leadership
 - Populations
 - Risk Factors
 - Barriers
- An interpretation of how Upstream, Midstream, Downstream suicide prevention approaches might be used in a media campaign (*see video time stamp 0:57:03*)
- Review of slides shown at the beginning of the presentation and the process. (*see video time stamp 1:12:34*)
 - Example of this approach (*see video time stamp 1:14:30*)
- A time for Q & A (*see video time stamp 1:18:54*)

For Future Consideration by the Task Force:

- Consideration of a voluntary sign list – How to bring this in so it is supportive of individuals who feel like they may need a break.

DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO:

The following documents were discussed at the meeting and are available on request by emailing community.safety@doj.oregon.gov or visiting the website at:

<https://www.doj.state.or.us/oregon-department-of-justice/office-of-the-attorney-general/task-force-on-community-safety-and-firearm-suicide/>

- PowerPoint Presentation by Dr. Sung

Next Meeting:

Date: March 3, 2025

Time: 10: 00 am to Noon

Via: ZoomGov