

State of Alaska FY2009 Governor's Operating Budget

Department of Health and Social Services Suicide Prevention Council Component Budget Summary

Component: Suicide Prevention Council

Contribution to Department's Mission

The Council is the state planning and coordinating agency for issues surrounding suicide prevention and awareness.

Core Services

The powers, duties and responsibilities of the Council are to act in an advisory capacity to the Governor and the legislature with respect to what actions can and should be taken to:

- Improve health and wellness throughout the state by reducing suicide and its effect on individuals, families, and communities;
- Broaden the public's awareness of suicide and the risk factors related to suicide;
- Enhance suicide prevention services and programs throughout the state;
- Develop healthy communities through comprehensive, collaborative, community-based approaches;
- Develop and implement a statewide suicide prevention plan; and
- Strengthen existing and build new partnerships between public and private entities that will advance suicide prevention efforts in the state.

FY2009 Resources Allocated to Achieve Results		
FY2009 Component Budget: \$125,600	Personnel:	
	Full time	0
	Part time	1
	Total	1

Key Component Challenges

- Ensure the work of the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council (SSPC) is conducted; the coordinator is working only part-time on these efforts, due to other Commissioner appointed assignments. In addition, the SSPC budget allows for only a part-time coordinator, limiting the number of projects the Council is able to undertake and the available time for planning and coordinating the statewide Council and its activities.
- Ensure that the FY08 performance measures are tracked and monitored, allowing for a favorable outcome report to the legislature.
- Begin to review and implement the Alaska Follow-back Study recommendations.
- The suicide prevention bracelet campaign is directed toward rural and urban youth and teenagers in school. The Council has designed and will continue to distribute silicone bracelets to every middle and high school student in Alaska. The bracelet contains a message of hope and encouragement – LIVE YOUR DREAM – on the outside and the phone number to the Alaska CARELINE, on the inside.
- Distribute various suicide prevention materials across the state (free of charge) for communities working on suicide prevention plans.
- The division is developing a continuing and coordinated approach to implement the Suicide Prevention Gatekeeper training across the state.
- At the direction of the department, transition the SSPC from the Commissioner's Office to the Division of Behavioral Health to better coordinate the efforts of the division and the SSPC in promoting healthy Alaskans, free from suicidal thoughts and actions. The SSPC and the division will work to make this a smooth transition.
- In an effort to get Alaska off the national list of "top ten" states with the highest suicide rates, the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council will partner with Behavioral Health to reduce the 3-year average rate of Alaska suicides from 21 deaths per 100,000 population to 15 per 100,000, representing a 29% decrease from the current rate, over a 7 year period.

The 3-year average rate for 2002 – 2004 = 21.1/100,000

2006	21.1 X 5% = 1.05 = 20.1/100,000
2007	20.1 X 5% = 1.01 = 19.1/100,000
2008	19.1 X 5% = 0.95 = 18.14/100,000
2009	18.14 X 5% = .91 = 17.23/100,000
2010	17.23 X 5% = .86 = 16.37/100,000
2011	16.37 X 5% = .82 = 15.55/100,000
2012	15.55 X 5% = .78 = 14.78/100,000

- On a yearly basis, review and update the Statewide Suicide Prevention Plan as indicated by community feedback and Council member's recommendations.
- Through the Follow-Back Study and other data sources, consistently review data and information in an effort to identify trends, make analysis and forward recommendations to the department regarding prevention, education and services needed statewide.
- Support Behavioral Health in its efforts to increase the number of communities that can recognize the warning signs of suicide by tracking the number of community-based suicide prevention grantees that align their community suicide prevention funding with the Statewide Suicide Prevention Plan.
- Help Behavioral Health apply for SAMSHA Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act youth suicide prevention grant and with its implementation if awarded.
- Provide technical assistance to Boys and Girls Clubs of Alaska statewide youth suicide prevention initiative, Project LEAD (Leadership, Education, Acceptance and Determination). Project LEAD builds protective factors in youth through academic and leadership development, along with alcohol and substance abuse prevention training.
- Gather data from Behavioral Health on the SAMHSA funded Gatekeeper Training.
 - a) Number of trainings held
 - b) Number of attendees

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2009

The Alaska Statewide Suicide Prevention Council (SSPC) is being moved from its current location within the DHSS Commissioners Office/Boards and Commissions to Behavioral Health, Prevention & Early Intervention Services. This move will allow for better coordination of statewide suicide prevention efforts between the SSPC and Behavioral Health. Currently, all community-based suicide prevention grant funds are administered and monitored by Behavioral Health, within the section of Prevention & Early Intervention Services. The Suicide Prevention Council and staff of Behavioral Health currently work together for a consistent, comprehensive and coordinated effort to reduce and prevent suicides in Alaska. With the change in location, a more seamless and coordinated approach will be possible. The Council continues to be a Governor-appointed board, and will be responsible for reporting annually to the Governor, Legislature and the DHSS Commissioner. In addition, the Council will continue to work in close partnership with the Alaska Mental Health Board, the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse and the Alaska Mental Health Trust. With this change, it is expected that performance and results toward our long-term outcome will be more attainable with greater accountability and coordination.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2007

- "You Know Me" campaign to reduce stigma, including presentations at the Alaska Federation of Natives conference.
- Suicide Prevention Public Awareness Campaign – design and distribute suicide prevention plans, posters, magnets, pencils, pens, t-shirts, and CARELINE business cards.
- Complete the FY08 Report to the Legislature.
- The Follow Back Study was completed and distributed in spring 2007.
- The current 3-year average Alaska suicide rate for 2003-2005 is 20.86/100,000. This is a decrease from the previous 3-year average of 21.1/100,000. There were 131 suicides in 2005, giving Alaska a fatality rate of

19.7/100,000. This rate is well ahead of our scheduled decreases, but it is more accurate to rely on the three year averages due to the annual fluctuation in rates.

- The Division of Behavioral Health Request for Proposals required that all community-based suicide grantees align their suicide prevention efforts with the suicide prevention plan. To date the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council (SSPC) has provided four trainings on the use of the Statewide Suicide Prevention Plan. These trainings took place at the behavioral health community-based suicide prevention grantee meetings, Alaska Federation of Natives, the School Principal's Association and the Public Health Summit.
- The SSPC provides technical assistance, referral services and support to the Boys and Girls Club - Project LEAD (Leadership, Education, Acceptance, and Determination). This program is targeted towards at-risk and in-crisis youth in Clubhouse communities throughout urban and rural Alaska.
- SSPC members provided five trainings on community planning and alignment with the SSPC plan; attended seven legislative meetings; submitted three letters to the editor; and conducted three major events, including testimony to the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Hearing on Youth Suicide in Washington D.C.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 44.29.300-390 DHSS, Statewide Suicide Prevention Council

Contact Information
<p>Contact: Laura Baker, Budget Chief Phone: (907) 465-1629 Fax: (907) 465-1850 E-mail: Laura.Baker@alaska.gov</p>

**Suicide Prevention Council
Component Financial Summary**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2007 Actuals	FY2008 Management Plan	FY2009 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	22.3	42.7	42.8
72000 Travel	41.2	35.0	35.0
73000 Services	66.4	30.6	30.6
74000 Commodities	8.5	17.2	17.2
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Benefits	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	138.4	125.5	125.6
Funding Sources:			
1037 General Fund / Mental Health	93.4	125.5	125.6
1092 Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts	45.0	0.0	0.0
Funding Totals	138.4	125.5	125.6

**Summary of Component Budget Changes
From FY2008 Management Plan to FY2009 Governor**

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2008 Management Plan	125.5	0.0	0.0	125.5
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-FY 09 Health Insurance Increases for Exempt Employees	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
FY2009 Governor	125.6	0.0	0.0	125.6

**Suicide Prevention Council
Personal Services Information**

Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs		
<u>FY2008</u>				
<u>Management</u>	<u>Plan</u>	<u>FY2009</u>		
		<u>Governor</u>		
	0	0	Annual Salaries	30,672
Full-time	0	0	Premium Pay	0
Part-time	1	1	Annual Benefits	13,583
Nonpermanent	0	0	<i>Less 3.29% Vacancy Factor</i>	(1,455)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	1	1	Total Personal Services	42,800

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Coordinator,Suicide Prev Cncl	1	0	0	0	1
Totals	1	0	0	0	1