INDIANA SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION

MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES, AND SCHOOLS
Boll State University Educational Psychology Department
Boll State University Social Work Department
DePauw University
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
Indiana University School of Medicine Department of Psychiatry
Indiana University School of Social Work
Indiana University South Bend
Sacred Heart School, Fowler

CRISIS CENTERS AND CRISIS LINES
Crisis Contact (Gary)
Lafayette Crisis Center

HOSPITALS AND MEDICAL CENTERS
Clarion Behavioral Core
Clarion Health Partners
Community Health Network
Howard Regional Health System
Deaconess Cross Pointe

Behavioral Health and Family Studies Institute
College of Health and Human Services
Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne
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The coalition operates as a statewide community outreach initiative of the Behavioral Health and Family Studies Institute, a recognized Center of Excellence at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.

Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) is a joint campus of two internationally recognized Big Ten schools. IPFW is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. It has the broadest scope of programs of all institutions of higher learning in northeast Indiana, offering more than 190 degree and certificate options. IPFW has a diverse enrollment of nearly 12,000 students encompassing many ages, races, and nationalities. Through exemplary standards in teaching, research, and service, IPFW reflects Indiana University and Purdue University's commitments to excellence and lifelong learning. IPFW provides its students the opportunity for success through its academic diversity, affordability, and flexibility.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
1 800-273 TALK

WWW. INDIANASUICIDEPREVENTIONCOALITION. ORG
In 2005, suicide among Hoosiers ages 15–54 was the fourth leading cause of death.

MISSION

Since its inception in 2001, the Indiana Suicide Prevention Coalition’s mission is to coordinate, facilitate, advise, and provide resources to Indiana communities for activities that reduce:

- Deaths due to suicide
- Occurrence of suicidal behaviors
- Effects of suicide on Indiana citizens

www.indianasuicidepreventioncoalition.org

The Coalition…

Coordinates…

information sharing via bi-monthly coalition meetings, a listserv, and a statewide e-mail list; collects statewide data on schools and youth-serving organizations’ efforts regarding suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention programs and services; conducts telephone surveys to determine Hoosiers’ knowledge and awareness of suicide and suicide prevention to help refine Indiana’s suicide prevention initiatives.

Advises…

local suicide prevention groups on expanding and refining their suicide prevention efforts; raises awareness across Indiana of the prevalence of suicide, the devastating impact it has on families, and its preventability; helps communities and organizations find and implement suicide prevention and intervention training.

Facilitates…

growth of local suicide prevention councils in counties and regions across Indiana; aids schools in responding to suicidal students by updating and distributing the Student Suicide Manual used by guidance counselors and social workers.

Provides…

resources to organizations and community members regarding suicide facts, trends, events, and evidence-based programs; provides technical assistance to Hoosiers by connecting them to information and services; distributes a school-based youth suicide prevention guide to help schools plan prevention, intervention, and postvention efforts.

FACTS

Did You Know?

- Suicide is a major public health issue, with more lives lost to suicide than either AIDS or homicide:
  Lives lost annually in the United States (2004):
  - To AIDS: 15,798
  - To homicide: 17,357
  - To suicide: 32,439
- Indiana’s suicide rate has been slightly higher than the national average since 1999.
- In 2005, suicide among Hoosiers ages 15–54 was the fourth-leading cause of death.
- Elderly white males have the highest suicide risk.
- During the period 2001–2005, four times as many males as females died by suicide.
- According to the 2005 “Indiana Youth Risk Behavior Survey,” 22 percent of girls and 14.3 percent of boys surveyed in grades 9–12 seriously considered attempting suicide in the last year.
- Suicide affects more than just those who die by suicide. There are an estimated six survivors (family and friends affected by the suicide) with each suicide death.

ACTION

Ideas for Action in Your Community/Agency

- Promote public awareness that suicide is a preventable public health issue.
- Participate in suicide prevention education such as:
  - identifying warning signs for suicide
  - encouraging suicidal individuals to get mental health treatment
  - appropriately storing and securing lethal means of self-harm (guns, medications, etc.)
- Develop and implement strategies to reduce the stigma associated with being a consumer of mental health, substance abuse, and suicide prevention services.
- Promote the use of a standardized suicide risk assessment by primary care physicians.
- Work with schools to ensure that mental health and substance abuse are appropriately addressed in health classes.

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From 2001–05, suicide among Hoosiers ages 15–19 was the second leading cause of death.