



**Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition  
2022 – 2023 Strategic Plan  
Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams Counties**

*“Preventing Suicide Through  
Education and Awareness”*

**Mission:** The mission of the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition is to increase awareness, decrease stigma, and increase people’s ability to seek help aimed at suicide prevention.

**Motto:** *“Preventing Suicide Through Education and Awareness”*

**Vision Statement:** The Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition will work to develop and maintain strong collaborative relationships among community partners, in order to provide and promote education and awareness efforts aimed at preventing suicide.

**Vision of Success**

- Depression is viewed as a serious illness and suicide is viewed as a significant public health problem.
- There is a collaborative effort across community systems, aimed at reducing suicide deaths in our communities.
- Individuals experiencing mental illness or thoughts of suicide have access to timely and effective treatment.
- The general public can identify signs and symptoms of depression and suicide risk, and understand how to connect those in need to services.
- The stigma surrounding depression and suicide is eliminated and no longer a barrier to accessing treatment for those in need.
- A postvention program is in place to respond to those newly bereaved by suicide.



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**Strategy 1: Increase awareness of suicide as a significant public health problem.**

Goal	Action Steps	Target	Progress
<p>1. Provide community-wide awareness regarding suicide data, risk factors, signs, symptoms, and resources related to depression and suicide.</p>	<p>A) Provide suicide awareness presentations and materials to four county area faith communities, law enforcement/first responders, civic organizations, and other targeted groups within in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties.</p> <p>B) Identify and target new groups relating to at-risk populations (i.e. employers, factories, veterans, healthcare workers, funeral homes, seniors, LGBTQ+, college students) for resources, information, and programming.</p> <p>C) Provide <i>Mental Health First Aid</i> trainings to the public, and those working in the public service sector.</p> <p>D) Deliver the <i>Stop the Stigma</i> campaign at locations in each of the four counties.</p>	<p>A) Provide eight community-based awareness presentations through 2023.</p> <p>B) Establish connections with at least 2 new groups to provide information and increase awareness through 2023</p> <p>C) Provide a minimum of 20 MHFA trainings through 2023.</p> <p>D) Provide eight displays through 2023.</p>	



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	<p>E) Provide <u>Yellow Ribbon Campaign</u> to four county area schools and community organizations.</p> <p>F) Provide awareness campaign aimed to parents and other adults about youth mental health, including myths and facts and talking to youth.</p> <p>G) Continue public awareness campaigns through independent actions and partnerships to increase awareness of the signs and symptoms of suicide, decrease stigma, and promote the coalition’s motto, <i>“Preventing Suicide Through Education and Awareness.”</i></p> <p>H) Establish public awareness campaigns to increase community’s knowledge of crisis resources, including Crisis Text Line and new 988 suicide hotline number.</p> <p>I) Utilize available data to assess for needs through the four counties.</p>	<p>E) Through 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75% of schools will participate.</li> <li>• 4 community organizations will participate.</li> </ul> <p>F) Provide 2 awareness campaigns on social media through 2023.</p> <p>G) Through 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 billboards (1 per county) through partnerships with 4YourMentalHealth and the Four County ADAMHS Board.</li> </ul> <p>H) Promote Crisis Text Line/Suicide Hotline through 4 collaborative events (1 per county) as well as social media and other community outreaches.</p> <p>I) Complete the Four County Area Suicide</p>	
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		Report annually through 2023.	
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**Strategy 2: Prevent deaths by suicide**

Goals	Action Steps	Target	Progress
1. Educate the community on the prevalence of depression, including how to identify mental health emergencies and appropriate interventions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Provide the Signs of Suicide to youth in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties.</li> <li>B) Provide Mental Health First Aid Trainings throughout Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties.</li> <li>C) Establish Question Persuade Refer Training for community members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Provide the Signs of Suicide program in 80% of high school and middle schools throughout the four counties through 2023.</li> <li>B) Provide 20 Mental Health First Aid and Youth Mental Health First Aid trainings through 2023.</li> <li>C) Provide 2 area QPR trainings through 2023.</li> </ul>	
2. Provide suicide prevention and intervention education to professionals who serve the four county communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Provide Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to local law enforcement officers.</li> <li>B) Educate area primary care physicians and their staff on the importance of regular depression and suicide risk screenings through the use of the PHQ2 and the</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Complete a minimum of 2 trainings through 2023, educating 30 law enforcement officers and related staff.</li> <li>B) Conduct <i>Lunch and Learn</i> presentations to 75% of area PCPs through 2023.</li> </ul>	



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	<p>PHQ9 for adults, the ASQ screening tool for youth and adolescents, available resources within the mental health system, and how to access those resources on behalf of patients.</p>		
<p>3. Reduce access to lethal means.</p>	<p>A) Partner with area firearms dealers and community organizations to distribute information on suicide risk factors, warning signs, and safety precautions among firearm owners.</p> <p>B) Educate the firearm sporting community about suicide risk factors, warning signs, and life-saving safety precautions.</p>	<p>A) Partner with eight firearms dealers and/or community organizations and provide printed materials in the Four County area through 2023.</p> <p>B) Through 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Present to 4 sportsmen’s clubs throughout the Four County area through 2023.</li> <li>• Provide printed prevention materials to in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties through 2023.</li> <li>• Identify 1 community partner in each county to assist with distribution of materials.</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Prevent contagion suicide deaths.</p>	<p>A) Partner with local law enforcement and the medical community to provide</p>	<p>A) Maintain the LOSS Team, responding to 90% of all</p>	



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	<p>postvention services to those newly bereaved by suicide.</p> <p>B) Refresh materials to present to area school districts on responding to a student death by suicide.</p>	<p>deaths by suicide in Defiance, Fulton, Henry and Williams counties.</p> <p>B) Maintain 1 presentation through 2023.</p>	
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**Strategy 3: Build and Strengthen Coalition**

<b>Goals</b>	<b>Action Steps</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Progress</b>
<p>1. Strengthen the collaborative effort across community systems.</p>	<p>A) Work to insure a balanced representation of the four county communities, with collaborative partners including consumers, and educational, mental health, medical, drug and alcohol treatment, faith, law enforcement and social services professionals.</p> <p>B) Create an orientation for new members to inform new members of coalition’s history, mission, and goals, as well as establishing new members’</p>	<p>A) Through 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase coalition membership by 15%.</li> <li>• Recruit a minimum of 1 student representative.</li> </ul> <p>B) Establish orientation process by end of 2023.</p>	



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	<p>purpose and goal for joining the coalition</p> <p>C) Maximize coalition’s focus and increase member engagement.</p>	<p>C) Establish 3 committees within the coalition (i.e. social media/messaging, community engagement, and financial committees) by end of 2023.</p>	
<p>2. Utilize marketing to communicate the coalition mission.</p>	<p>A) Improve community recognition of the Four County Suicide Prevention Coalition and its mission of suicide prevention, by gaining support from community partners.</p>	<p>A) Through 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the coalition’s presence and engagement on social media through 2023, including weekly postings and at least 1 social media challenge (ex. Wear Yellow and Post during Suicide Prevention Month).</li> <li>• Develop a coalition newsletter to be distributed 4 times through 2023.</li> <li>• Update the coalition’s website by end of 2023.</li> </ul>	