Hawai‘i’s Caring Communities Initiative (HCCI) for Youth Suicide Prevention:
Using a youth and community mobilization model to prevent youth suicide
Hawaiʻi’s Caring Communities Initiative for Youth Suicide Prevention
Goals of HCCI

• Builds on previous gatekeeper training efforts

• Focuses on youth from rural and Native Hawaiian communities who are at higher suicidal risk

• Aims to enhance the safety net for these youth by working with youth-serving community organizations and health care providers
University of Hawai‘i HCCI team

- Deborah Goebert, DrPH
  *Project Director*
- Jane Chung-Do, DrPH
  *Director of “Mobilizing Communities At-Risk” Project*
- Jeanelle Sugimoto-Matsuda, DrPH candidate
  *Director of “Enhancing the Statewide Trauma Network” Project*
- Stephanie Nishimura, PhD
  *Co-Director of Evaluation (quantitative)*
- Susana Helm, PhD
  *Co-Director of Evaluation (qualitative)*
- Kris Bifulco, MPH student
  *Public Health Graduate Assistant*
- Davis Rehuher, BA
  *Assistant Program Manager*
Collaborative Partners

Hawaii State Department of Health

Connect
Training Professionals & Communities in Suicide Prevention & Response

Queen Lili`uokalani Children’s Center – Honolulu Unit

Mental Health America of Hawai‘i
Community Partners
Background Data
Suicide in Hawai‘i
International Statistics

- One million people per year die by suicide, a death every 40 seconds.
- Suicide rate has increased by 60% worldwide.
- Youth are highest risk in 1/3 of reporting countries.

World Health Organization, 2011
10th leading cause of death

Over 32,000 per year = a death every 16.6 minutes

3rd leading cause of death in the 15-24 year age group
Suicide rates: Hawai‘i versus other States, 2005-2009

Hawai‘i had the 42nd highest 5-year rate:

Hawai‘i would have the 21st highest if deaths of undetermined intent (possible suicides) were included.

Slide courtesy of Hawai‘i DOH
### Causes of fatal injuries among Hawai‘i residents, 2007-2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Infants (32 total)</th>
<th>1-14 y (66)</th>
<th>15-24 y (368)</th>
<th>25-34 y (376)</th>
<th>35-44 y (466)</th>
<th>45-64 y (1,105)</th>
<th>65-74 y (230)</th>
<th>75+y (713)</th>
<th>Total (3,356)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>suffocation</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>drowning 16</td>
<td>suicide 125</td>
<td>suicide 124</td>
<td>suicide 138</td>
<td>suicide 291</td>
<td>suicide 55</td>
<td>falls 377</td>
<td>suicide 795</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>unk. intent</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 11</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 86</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 50</td>
<td>poisoning 112</td>
<td>poisoning 284</td>
<td>falls 53</td>
<td>suffocation 85</td>
<td>falls 541</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>homicide</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>mvc*-pedestrian 9</td>
<td>mvc*-motorcyclist 32</td>
<td>poisoning 44</td>
<td>unk. intent 46</td>
<td>unk. intent 160</td>
<td>mvc*-pedestrian 22</td>
<td>suicide 57</td>
<td>poisoning 490</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>natural/environ.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>homicide 8</td>
<td>poisoning 29</td>
<td>mvc*-motorcyclist 37</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 34</td>
<td>drowning 68</td>
<td>suffocation 16</td>
<td>mvc*-pedestrian 39</td>
<td>unk. intent 283</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>drowning</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>suicide 5</td>
<td>drowning 25</td>
<td>unk. intent 33</td>
<td>falls 29</td>
<td>falls 63</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 15</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 21</td>
<td>mvc*-occupant 264</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Slide courtesy of Hawai‘i DOH
Youth Suicides in Hawai‘i

- 130 youth die by suicide each year.

- Nearly 1 out of 3 students feel so sad or hopeless almost everyday for 2 or more weeks in a row that they stop doing some usual activities.

- About 18% of Native Hawaiian youths in rural areas report attempts compared to 13% of all youths.

- While Native Hawaiian youths account for about 25% of the population, they account for 50% of the suicides in 10-14 year olds, 40% of 15-19 year olds.

Youth Risk Behavior Survey through Native Hawaiian Youth Suicide Prevention Project
Suicide as a Public Health Issue

- **1999**: Surgeon General’s Report
- **2001**: National Strategy for Suicide Prevention
- **2001**: Prevent Suicide Hawai‘i Task Force
- **2004**: Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act
- **2005-2010**: HI State Injury Prevention Plan
- **2008-2011**: Hawai‘i's Gatekeepers Training Initiative
- **2011-2014**: Hawai‘i's Caring Communities Initiative
HCCI Strategies
Mobilizing Communities At-Risk

working with youth-serving organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Community Organization</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Waimānalo</td>
<td>BRAVEHEART</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kahuku</td>
<td>Koʻolauloa Health and Wellness Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kauaʻi</td>
<td>Life’s Bridges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hilo</td>
<td>First United Protestant Church</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Molokaʻi</td>
<td>Molokaʻi Community Health Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maui</td>
<td>Maui Economic Opportunity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Developed by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) of New Hampshire.

• Endorsed by the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) under SAMHSA.

• Promotes a public health and comprehensive model that can be tailored to various audiences.

• Provides common language around suicide prevention and promotes collaboration among stakeholders.
Mobilizing Communities At-Risk

*working with communities and youth*

Partner with a Community Coordinator from each organization

Provide CONNECT training to Community Coordinators

Community Coordinators train and work with youth leaders

Community awareness activities and trainings
Connect Suicide Prevention
Community Training
January 2012
Enhancing the Statewide Trauma Network

**working with healthcare providers**

- Partner with emergency departments across Hawai‘i
- Train ED Managers /Trauma Coordinators in CONNECT
- ED Managers /Trauma Coordinators train other healthcare providers
- Strengthen skills and protocols for working with suicidal youth and their families
Community Activities
• Trained youth, parents, and community members in CONNECT

• Hosted a 3-day Youth Summit
  • Heart-to-Heart Panel
  • Open House

• Message of Hope Campaign
Here's Our Love
Hold it Close To you !!!!
Everyday Promises... A Love That Inspires
Life’s Bridges: KLAS
Kaua‘i Leaders Against Suicide

• Recruited 16 youth leaders from Kaua‘i High School
• Promoting a community-based short film about youth suicide
• Launching a t-shirt campaign: 1 in 6
T.O.P.S.
Teens On Preventing Suicide

- Recruited and trained 25 students from Kahuku High School
- Launched a t-shirt campaign at Kahuku High School
- Hosted a booth at Kahuku Health Fair
- Organized the Walk of Hope during National Suicide Prevention Week
Why don't people talk about Suicide?

- They think the person gonna become suicidal
- They could be embarrassed
- Scared
- It's awkward and personal
- They don't want to be stopped
- Don't want to admit they have a problem
- Not a nice subject
- Scared to talk about it
- It's not a common topic
- Shy
Summary

- Community partners have hosted **11** awareness activities
  - These activities have reached ~**41,000** people

- Community partners have conducted **18** Connect trainings
  - There have been **341** community members trained in Connect (youth & adults)
Summary

• In July, 31 ER personnel received Connect training
  • Of those, 12 received additional training to become Connect Trainers

• ER partners have conducted 5 Connect trainings for their departments
  • A total of 34 additional ER personnel have been trained in Connect since July
Suicide Prevention Resources

- Hawai‘i Department of Health's ACCESS Line
  Provides a team of trained and experienced professionals 24 hours a day to help in times of a mental health crisis.
  - O‘ahu: 808-832-3100
  - Neighbor islands: 1-800-753-6879

- The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
  A free, 24-hour hotline available to anyone in emotional distress or a suicidal crisis.
  - 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
Thank You!

For more information, contact:

HCCI-contact@dop.hawaii.edu

Or visit our website:
http://blog.hawaii.edu/hcci