

## REACHING NEW HEIGHTS

Idaho Council on Suicide Prevention Linda Hatzenbuehler, Chair

# What is the Idaho Council on Suicide Prevention?

• Established under Executive Order No. 2006-35 (most recently No. 2014-08)

- Purpose
  - 1. Oversee the implementation of the Idaho Suicide Prevention Plan
  - 2. Ensure the continued relevance of the Plan
  - 3. Report annually to the Governor and the Legislature



# Why do we need a Council on Suicide Prevention in Idaho?

## 362

Total deaths by suicide in Idaho in 2015

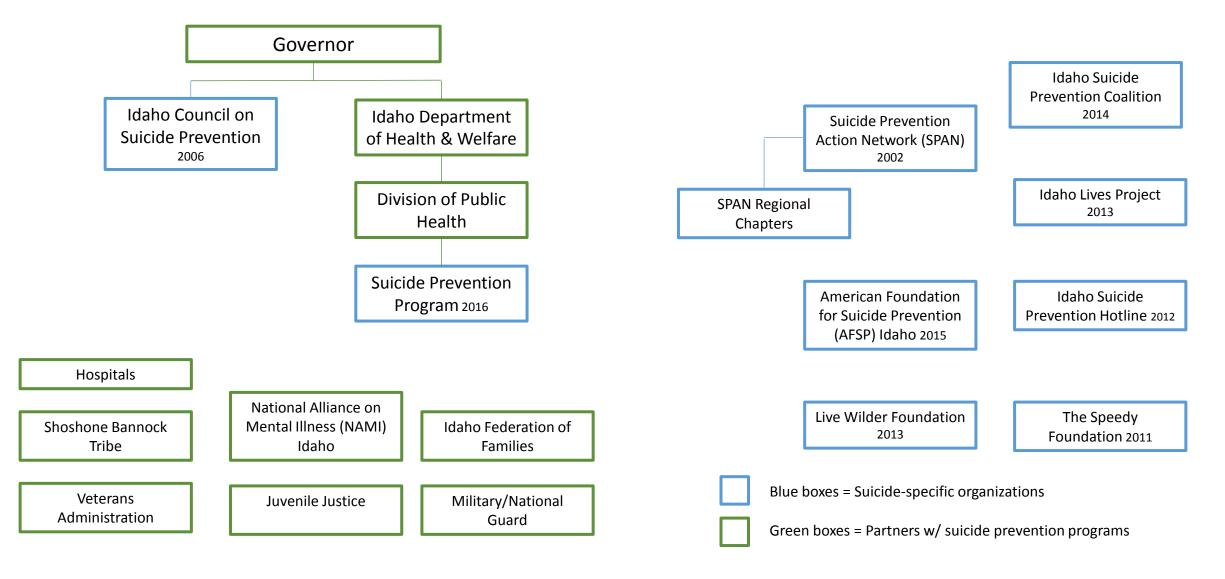
102

School-aged death to suicide in Idaho from 2011-2015

24

Children age 14 and under lost to suicide in Idaho from 2011-2015

## Suicide Prevention Organizations in Idaho







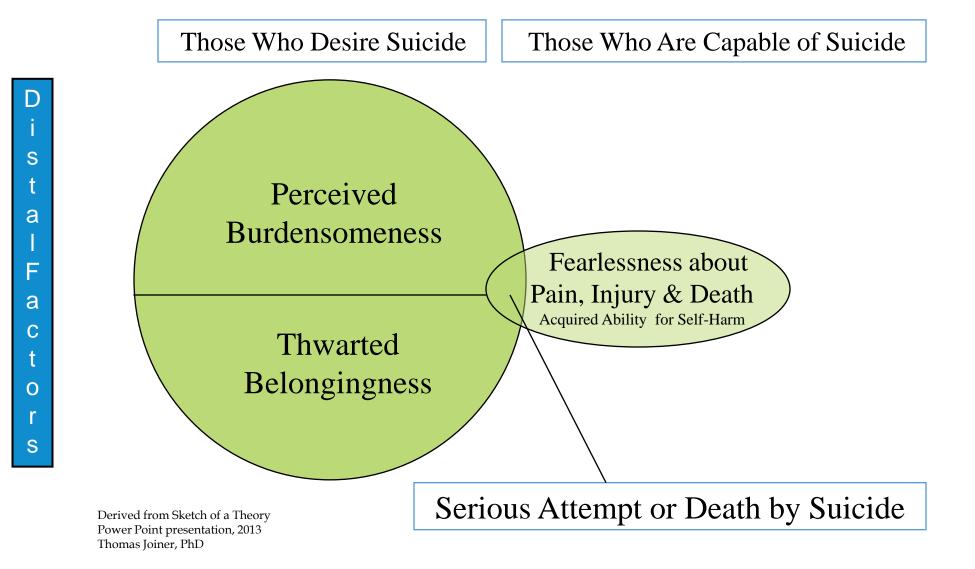


## Public Health Suicide Prevention Program Beginnings

- The 2016 Idaho Legislature allocated funds to established the Suicide Prevention Program (SPP)
- The SPP develops, implements and supports statewide programs to prevent suicide in Idaho in alignment with the statewide Idaho Suicide Prevention Plan
- The SPP employs four full-time staff

#### Interpersonal-Psychological Theory of Suicide Thomas Joiner, PhD

#### Why People Die by Suicide



### SPP Primary Initiatives 2016/2017

- Provide funding to the Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline
- Provide funding for upstream youth suicide prevention education
- Research and conduct a public awareness campaign
- Provide funding and administrative support to the Idaho Suicide Prevention Council
- Establish and convene suicide prevention stakeholder group to improve coordination of efforts
- Pursue additional suicide prevention strategies and respond to suicide related requests

## DHW/SPP Accomplishments 7/2016 – 1/2017

- Hired and trained staff, and created infrastructure for SPP within the Division of Public Health
- Provided funding to the Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline
  - 1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 1-208-398-HELP (4357)
- Provided funding to the Idaho Lives Project for training Idaho youth in strength, hope and resilience
- Conducted research and drafted marketing plan for statewide suicide prevention public awareness campaign
- Provided support to the Idaho Suicide Prevention Council
  - Coordinated meetings
  - Updating the 2011 Idaho Suicide Prevention Plan
  - Compiled and printed the annual Governor's Report

## DHW/SPP Accomplishments 7/2016 – 1/2017

- Convened two SPP stakeholder group meetings and increased collaboration
- Conducted research and began education and capacity-building for the Zero Suicide Initiative which targets health systems and is proven to reduce suicide rates
- Conducted informal investigation of downtown Boise parking garages to identify and make recommendations to increase safety levels at a potential "destination" garage. Recommendations are being adopted.
- Helped establish a Lethal Means Task Force in partnership with Rep. Caroline Troy, the Idaho Firearms Alliance and other partners
- Responded to numerous requests for information and consultation from a wide variety of citizens, stakeholders, service providers and the media

### Contact US

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