



Zero Suicide Initiative

www.co.washington.or.us/suicide

www.zerosuicide.com

What is the Zero Suicide Initiative?

- Zero Suicide Initiative is a commitment to suicide prevention in health and behavioral health care systems and a specific set of tools and strategies.
- It is based on work done at the Henry Ford Health System in Michigan and other organizations that have achieved zero suicides among their health plan members.

How can people support the effort in Washington County?

- Learn about the Zero Suicide Initiative
- Promote the concept of zero suicide
- Join the national learning collaborative
- Join the Suicide Prevention Council

How does this fit with suicide prevention in Washington County?

- Washington County has an average of 65 suicides per year. The Suicide Prevention Council of Washington County has a vision of zero suicides in our community.
- Council goals are aligned with the 2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and our Community Health Improvement Plan to achieve zero.
- Council participates in the national zero suicide learning collaborative, which is comprised of organizations around the country implementing the zero suicide initiative.
- Washington County has been chosen as a demonstration site as part of a federal Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention Grant. Washington County Public Health has hired a new suicide prevention coordinator to partner with health systems on implementation of the Zero Suicide Initiative.

Zero suicide: A shift in perspective

From:	To:
Accepting suicide as inevitable	Every suicide is preventable
Stand-alone training and tools	Overall systems and cultural change
Specialty referral to niche staff	Part of everyone's job
Individual clinical judgment and actions	Standardized screening, assessment, risk stratification and intervention
Hospitalization during episodes of crisis	Productive interactions throughout; continuity of care
"If we can save one life..."	"How many deaths are acceptable?"

For more information on anything related to suicide prevention in Washington County, please contact Meghan Crane at 503-846-4748 or meghan_crane@co.washington.or.us.