

SAFER HOMES, SUICIDE AWARE PROGRESS REPORT JULY 2017 - JANUARY 2018

Safer Homes, Suicide Aware is a public health campaign designed to reset thinking and storage practices for medications and firearms in order to reduce suicides in Washington state. The campaign is motivated by these tragic statistics-- seven out of ten suicides are men and nearly 80 percent of firearm fatalities in Washington are suicides. It is therefore critical to deploy suicide prevention strategies that reach men and are developed with input from the firearms owning community. Safer Homes campaign strategies are varied, they include:

- The development of innovative and customized suicide prevention training for communities, industries and systems that reach men such as construction, hunter safety instructors, Veterans, firearms industry professionals, second amendment rights groups etc.
- Coupling of a brief intervention about the need to lock and limit access to medications and firearms to prevent suicide with the distribution of safe storage devices in community-based settings such as gun shows
- Working with health care organizations to help primary care providers have proactive conversations with patients about the need to lock and limit access to medications and firearms to help prevent suicide
- Dissemination of collateral materials on medications and firearm safety within health care organizations, pharmacies, firearm retail stores, and at Veterans and school based parent education events etc.

About Our Name: "Safer Homes" signifies a home in which lethal means are unavailable to a suicidal individual. "Suicide Aware" signifies the universal need to educate people about suicide prevention and action steps everyone can take today.

Safer Homes is funded by a public-private partnership. To date, we have raised \$75,000 of the \$200,000 goal for private funds raised needed to continue our work between 2017-2019. Every private dollar contributed is matched by state funding.

The Safer Homes Coalition oversees the campaign and includes varied and broad membership including: law enforcement, firearms rights groups, firearms retailers, representatives from active duty military/ Veterans, health care professionals, public health experts, suicide prevention experts and suicide attempt and loss survivors. Co-chairs are Alan Gottlieb, executive vice president of the Second Amendment Rights Foundation, and Jennifer Stuber, co-founder and faculty director of Forefront Suicide Prevention at the University of Washington.



MILESTONES
JULY 2017-JANUARY 2018

Milestone 1	Aug. 15, 2017	<p>Reached agreement with Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Hunter Safety Education Manager David Whipple regarding Safer Homes and suicide prevention messaging to be included in the following: Hunter Safety Education Booklet, now titled "Firearms Safety, Suicide Awareness, The Law and You." (P2-3)</p> <p>Additional Safer Homes, Suicide Aware content is posted on the DFW Hunter Education webpage for enrolling in the Basic Hunter Education class. All parents enrolling their son or daughter in hunter safety education will use this page, ensuring this audience of parents sees the Safer Homes message.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>QUOTE: "I continue to be amazed as to the reach you folks have made and the changes that will happen as a result of the brochure and all of its related work."</i> Peter Schmidt, director of Behavioral Health Program, Washington Department of Veterans Affairs</p>
	October	<p>Collaboration with the Washington State Department of Licensing added the Safer Homes message to renewal notices sent to holders of concealed weapons carry permits (approximately 200,000 firearms owners per year).</p>
Milestone 2	AUG. 25-27	<p>Second Annual Community Organizers Retreat, Packwood, WA Encompassing suicide attempt survivors and suicide loss survivors, this group of 14 underwent a brief Safer Homes, Suicide Aware training – the first stage in educating them in becoming skilled participants in Safer Homes conversations with members of Washington’s gun-using public.</p>
Milestone 3	SEPT. 10	<p>Launch of Safer Homes, Suicide Aware - Aberdeen, WA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interactions with approximately 75 families/individuals on the Safer Homes message: • Locking & Limiting Access to Medications & Firearms Can Help Save Lives from Suicide Either in a Crisis or Long Before a Crisis Emerges • Distribution of lock boxes and other locking equipment. • Gun safe raffle, with a suicide prevention message.



Milestone 4	SEPT. 10	<p>Soft launch: Firearms Safety, Suicide Awareness & You – a voluntary, one-hour, online training including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of suicide in Washington state • LEARN steps for asking directly about suicide and connecting an individual with help • Safer Homes message, including Brett’s Basic Rules of Firearm Storage • Role-play videos <p>QUOTE: <i>“The videos on firearm safety and suicide prevention training are well done. The gentleman playing the role of the veteran is amazing.”</i></p> <p>David Whipple, Hunter Safety Education Manager, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</p>
	SEPT. 10	<p>Launch of www.SaferHomesCoalition.org with videos, materials and trainings.</p> <p>Watch a Safer Homes role-play video between firearms retailer and customer.</p>
	SEPT. 26	<p>Safer Homes event at Sultan High School Jamboree</p> <p>Three volunteers interacted with approximately 50 parents, gave away approximately 65 medications and firearms locking devices. Parents were excited to discover a practical suicide prevention message in their school and community, and were grateful to receive free locking devices.</p>
Milestone 5	SEPT. 30	<p>National Gun Rights Policy Conference in Dallas</p> <p>Jenn Stuber presented on Safer Homes; attendees responded with enthusiasm and interest in engaging Safer Homes on a national level.</p>
	OCT. 15	<p>In-kind donation</p> <p>NWSafe, a Enumclaw business discounted 1500 firearms lockboxes and donated a fast-access SmartVault to be raffled at the December Puyallup Gun Show.</p>
Milestone 6	SEPT. 30	<p>Launch of All Patients Safe</p> <p>This six-hour online suicide prevention training for Washington State physicians includes a significant Safer Homes module.</p>



		Forefront Suicide Prevention partnered with the University of Washington School of Medicine’s Department of Psychiatry, Children’s Hospital of Seattle and others to produce this training. Approximately 16,500 physicians in Washington state were engaged in direct care of patients in 2016. By Feb. 1, 1,500 physicians had registered for the training.
Milestone 7	Dec. 16-17	<p>Safer Homes First Gun Show attends its first gun show, the Washington Arms Collectors Gun Show at the State Fairgrounds in Puyallup. Twelve volunteers interacted with approximately 300 participants over the two days, asking about current firearm-locking practices and who they would turn to if a family member, friend – or they, themselves – were ever to become suicidal. This historic event was well received, as described in this article in the online publication, GunMag.</p> <p><i>QUOTE: “Three-hundred people! That is a great result for the type of one-on-one contacts you were making. I heard nothing but positive comments... I think your positive interactions were a result of the way your volunteers dealt with people--I observed your approach and conversations--very nice, not threatening to even the most sensitive. Come on back anytime.”</i> Phil Shave, outgoing Executive Director of Washington Arms Collectors</p>
	Jan. 8, 2018	Jenn Stuber and Brandi Singer, psychiatric pharmacist at Eastern State Hospital, trained 100 Montana pharmacists in the Suicide Awareness and Referral Training for Pharmacy Professionals, which includes a significant Safer Homes module.
	Jan. 15	Firearms Safety, Suicide & You Launch one-hour, voluntary online firearms retailer training,
	Jan. 23	Grandmothers Against Gun Violence Presentation to this Seattle group by Jenn Stuber. Organizers titled the talk: How to Influence the Gun Lobby. Stuber described the cultivation of a collaborative approach that became essential to the successful creation of the Safer Homes training and materials.
	Feb. 1	Mailing to 650 firearm retailers announcing availability of the training. Phone calls to ensue (early February) to retailers by Boyd Kneeland, president of the Washington Arms Collectors and Brett Brass, range master at West Coast Armory, Bellevue.




COMING SOON

Milestone 8	Feb, 8	Bree Collaborative Committee on Suicide Prevention Composed of Washington state health care professionals, this body advises the Washington Health Care Authority and the Governor on high-interest public health/ health care needs and initiatives – including this year for the first time, suicide prevention. Safer Homes, Suicide Aware will be discussed by this group with an eye to scaling up dissemination of collateral content
	Feb. 10	Film video at Monroe Gun Show for training future Safer Homes volunteers in Eastern Washington The video will allow Safer Homes to scale up its population of trained volunteers, allowing further dissemination of Safer Homes at gun shows across Washington.
	March 17	Training new Safer Homes volunteers in Spokane
	April 7, 8	Safer Homes attends Spokane Gun Show
Milestone 9	April 22	Safer Homes panel presentation at the American Association of Suicidology's 51 st Conference, in Washington D.C. Representatives from the National Rifle Association will be in attendance.

FIREARMS POSTCARD

ACT TODAY TO STOP SUICIDE

Long Before a Crisis Occurs



He had done all his safety training...

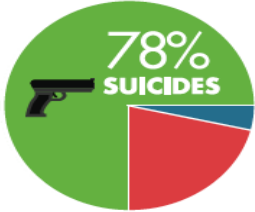
...he was an excellent marksman

SUICIDE WAS THE LAST POSSIBLE THING ON OUR MINDS

LOCK AND LIMIT ACCESS TO ALL YOUR FIREARMS


There were 6,578 firearm deaths¹ in Washington State between 2005-2015...

¹Statistics from the Washington Trading Network, Department of Health.



78% SUICIDES

<p>Do Young People Live In or Visit Your Home?</p>	<p>LOCK UP</p> <p>For their protection, do not allow children & teens unsupervised, unauthorized firearm access</p>	<p>LIMIT</p> <p>Only firearm owner should access keys and combinations</p>	<p>CHOOSE</p> <p>Carefully select a safe storage device for home-defense firearm with fast access for only you</p>
<p>82% OF TEENS WHO DIE BY SUICIDE WITH A GUN USE A FAMILY MEMBER'S FIREARM</p>			
<p>Concerned About Yourself, Friend Or Family Member?</p>	<p>HOLD</p> <p>Give a trusted individual keys and combinations</p>	<p>TRANSFER</p> <p>Ask a friend or relative to hold firearms in an emergency temporary transfer</p>	<p>CALL</p> <p>The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255 Veterans Press 1 Crisis Text: 741-741</p>



SAFER HOMES SUICIDE AWARE

YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE
SaferHomesCoalition.org



PHARMACY POSTCARD



You do so much to keep your loved ones safe...

- ✓ Car seats
- ✓ Smoke alarms
- ✓ First Aid kits
- ✓ Bike helmets
- LOCK UP AND LIMIT ACCESS RX MEDICATIONS AND FIREARMS**

SUICIDE IS PREVENTABLE
Medication overdoses too.

Go to SaferHomesCoalition.org

These steps protect against suicide/overdose/poisoning

1 LOCK UP your RX medications	2 LIMIT in-home supply of over-the-counter medications
3 TAKE-BACK go to takebackyourmeds.org	4 DISPOSE of meds with kitty litter or coffee grounds; place in your trash



 **SAFER HOMES**
SUICIDE AWARE

You Can Save A Life



LETTER TO FIREARM RETAILERS

Dear Washington Firearms Retailer,

Jan. 22, 2018

Firearms owners in Washington adhere to a proud tradition of firearms safety. Hunter education and firearms safety classes have helped to drop the number of U.S. accidental firearms fatalities to historically low numbers.

However, suicides have risen significantly and now account for 78 percent of firearms deaths in Washington. The Safer Homes Coalition is working to change this. Active partners in the coalition include the Second Amendment Foundation and the National Rifle Association. Our work is about saving lives, period.

In the summer of 2016, the Safer Homes Task Force contacted you with an initial survey about how you can help. We are grateful for the many responses that helped shape a new training in firearms safety designed for retailers and safety instructors to help educate your customers and students. (The task force adopted the name Safer Homes Coalition in 2017.)

We are proud to present to you the free, voluntary online training, *Firearms Safety, Suicide Awareness & You*. You can access this free training under the TRAINING tab at www.SaferHomesCoalition.org. This 60-minute session will give you a basic awareness of suicide's impact and the skills you need to recognize warning signs of suicide and help people.

Once you and your store employees have completed the training, we will provide you with free educational materials to share with your customers. We also will send you a plaque of appreciation for your commitment to saving lives.

Please place the enclosed sticker on your counter or in your company/ store restroom. If you do not have a store front, please post it in a public restroom.

Together, we can use the life-saving Safer Homes skills to help reduce suicide in our communities and our state. Join us, please.

Sincerely,



Alan Gottlieb
Second Amendment Foundation



Dr. Jennifer Stuber
Forefront Suicide Prevention

For more information or questions, contact us at: info@SaferHomesCoalition.org



SAFER HOMES COALITION

Robin Ball, owner Sharp Shooting Indoor Range, Spokane
Janna Bardi, Assistant Secretary Health Systems Quality Assurance, Department of Health
Brett Bass, West Coast Armory, Bellevue
Rep. Brian Blake, 19th Legislative District
Karyn Brownson, King County Department of Health
David Dickinson, SAMHSA
Sen. Joe Fain, 44th Legislative District
Chelsie Gallagher, Seattle Children's Hospital
Kathleen Gilligan, suicide prevention advocate
Alan Gottlieb, Second Amendment Foundation (co-chair)
Keely Hopkins, Northwest regional NRA representative
Renee Hopkins, WA Alliance for Gun Responsibility
Pama Joyner, Department of Health
Ilan Kariv, Grays Harbor Guns, Aberdeen
Marny Lombard (staff)
Thomas May, suicide prevention advocate
Jason McGill, Governor's Office
Neetha Mony, Suicide Prevention Manager, Department of Health
Rep. Tina Orwall, 33rd Legislative District
Lori Pender, public health educator, suicide prevention advocate
Eric Pisconski, Seattle Police Department
Troy Pruitt, Wild West Marketing
Paul Quinnett, QPR Institute
Greg Reger, Department of Veterans Affairs
Sigrid Reinert, WA State Department of Health
Ali Rowhani-Rahbar, Harborview Hospital
Peter Schmidt, Department of Veterans Affairs
Phil Shave, Washington Arms Collectors
Jennifer Stuber, Forefront Suicide Prevention (co-chair)
Jeffrey Sung, WA State Psychiatric Association

