

STRIVING FOR ZERO EXCELLENCE AWARDS

All Striving for Zero Learning Collaborative county teams are asked to submit one (or more) entries for a *Striving for Zero Excellence Award*. This is an opportunity to “brag, show and tell” about a local effort that can serve as inspiration for colleagues. Entries will provide a visual representation of how your efforts embody excellence within each category. Entries should fit on a small tabletop easel. One submission is allowed per category, and you are welcome to submit entries for more than one category.

Selected finalists in each category will be asked to share additional information about their project during the meeting. All attendees will have an opportunity to vote on projects, and winners will be announced during the closing session of the meeting on Friday, March 1st. In addition to bragging rights, there will be a prize!

Award Categories:

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

This award will go to a county team that has put in place any type of sustainable practice that will help ensure suicide prevention leadership and implementation work will continue when faced with staff, leadership, or funding changes. Examples could include data sharing MOUs, suicide prevention trainings that are part of employee onboarding practices, uniform risk assessment processes, or the responsibility of co-chairing a committee or providing administrative oversight as part of a job description.

INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

This award will go to a county team that has established untraditional or innovative partnerships to advance implementation of their strategic plan and local suicide prevention work. Examples include partnerships with organizations (hospitals, sports teams, local businesses, other departments, coalitions, and more) that can provide access to community members, provide staffing or funding, or implement trainings.

COMMUNICATING DATA AND MEASURING OUTCOMES

This award will go to advances in gathering and using data to inform suicide prevention efforts and/or creating public-facing data documents that align with effective messaging for suicide prevention. Examples include data dashboards, suicide prevention reports to the community, establishment of a suicide fatality review team, facilitation of data integration workgroups and more.

INFUSING CULTURE INTO SUICIDE PREVENTION EFFORTS

This award will go to a county team or coalition that has infused culturally responsive strategies and approaches throughout their plan and other efforts. Examples may include infusing culture throughout their strategic planning process and implementation, ensuring the strategic plan and outreach and education materials available in several or all threshold languages, using data to inform culturally responsive suicide prevention activities and outcomes.

OUTREACH, MEDIA & COMMUNICATION

This award will go to a county team for excellence in outreach and raising awareness about suicide prevention. Examples can include communication efforts ranging from grassroots and shoestring budgets to larger scale social media and traditional media campaigns.

TARGETED APPROACHES

This award will go to a county team that has implemented innovative outreach efforts, interventions, or programs to reach populations at disproportionate risk for suicide.

INTERVENTIONS (AFTER A SUICIDE ATTEMPT)

This award will go to a county team that has implemented impactful programming to support individuals after a suicide attempt. This might include establishing or expanding attempt survivor support groups or creating a formal or informal “caring contact” program to support individuals after a suicide attempt, or supports to help individuals transition back to school or work after a suicide attempt.

INTERVENTIONS (AFTER A SUICIDE LOSS)

This award will go to a county team that has implemented impactful programming to support individuals, families, or communities after a suicide death. This might include but is not limited to the creation of delayed or active response teams, offering survivor of suicide loss support groups, creating school or community-based postvention plans.

COMPREHENSIVE SUICIDE RELATED CARE

This award will go to a county team that has implemented practices to identify, support, and promote care for individuals during times of suicidal distress or elevated risk. Examples may include developing policies, procedures, and workforce training for screening, assessment, management, and triage across multiple organizational levels. Other potential examples include integrating suicide care tools (e.g., safety plan templates, screening tools, suicide documentation templates) into electronic health records or resource repositories for staff, innovative approaches to crisis stabilization and continuity of care, or provision of clinical trainings in evidence-based suicide interventions.

INVOLVING THE WHOLE COMMUNITY-EVERYONE CAN PLAY A ROLE IN SUICIDE PREVENTION

This award will go to a county team that found a way to engage a broad range of partners in the community in their suicide prevention efforts. This could be through a public event, a press conference, a conference/summit, or another type of activity/event hosted by their coalition or network.

STRIVING FOR ZERO

This category allows you to nominate any effort you are proud of and that doesn't fit into in any of the other categories and that you feel will make a difference in striving for zero suicides in your local communities.