



Pathways to Resiliency, Strength and Recovery

Date: Friday, May 6, 2016

Location: Regis University Lowell Campus, Denver, CO

Time: 1:15 - 2:15 p.m.

Track: Recovery

Breakout Session Title:

Prevention/Postvention Efforts: The Importance of Community

Presenter: **Natalie A. Trombly, LCSW**, Program Manager for the Boulder County Prevention Intervention Program, Mental Health Partners

Abstract:

The presentation will address the conference theme by describing how a well targeted and orchestrated community partnership effort, utilizing evidenced based prevention practices can support students struggling with suicidal thinking and how postvention services are able to help survivors of suicide loss. The presentation will primarily discuss what types of collaborations, services and practices enhance the likelihood of promoting recovery after the suicide attempt or loss of a student.

Findings: A strong collaboration, focusing on a high degree of communication between the school and service providers can act as preventative factor in identifying students with suicidal thinking. Secondly, a well-developed community partnership crisis response following the death of a student can help to decrease the likelihood of additional students experiencing a trauma response; potentially resulting in a contagion effect following the initial traumatic event and provide support to students, parents and school staff.

The presentation, using Boulder Valley School District as an example, will demonstrate that such a collaborative effort, follows the recommendations of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention/Suicide Prevention Resource Center Workgroup (After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools, 2011), SAMSHA-

Suicide Prevention and Post-Suiciding Coping Resources and the U.S Department of Education – Youth Suicide Postvention.

The presenter will engage the audience through didactic presentation, video clips and providing the audience with a checklist that they can follow during the presentation and utilizing in their own communities. Resources will also be provided to enhance understanding and education.

The audience will utilize the checklist to complete sections objectives: B & C. A brief discussion following the presentation will allow participants to articulate their understanding of objectives: A & D.