Emergency Response Suicide Prevention Grant

Overview

The Health Care Authority (HCA) Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery (DBHR) funds the University of Washington Medical Center (UWMC) Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences Behavioral Health Institute (BHI) to support adults, 25 and older, who have attempted suicide or experienced a suicidal crisis.

The essential activities of the grant include:

- Develop and implement a plan for rapid follow-up for adults after discharge from emergency departments and inpatient psychiatric facilities.
- Establish follow-up and care transition protocols to help ensure patient safety.
- Provide, or assure provision of, suicide prevention training to community and clinical service providers and systems serving adults at risk.
- Provide suicide screening and assessment and appropriate referral for clinical treatment services required identified in the assessment.
- Provide enhanced services for domestic violence survivors and their dependents including a safe place to stay if individuals are unable to remain safely in the home setting.

Included in the rapid follow-up and care transitions is BHI peer navigators with lived experience providing caring contacts and the utilization of Jaspr Health app in the hospital ER and inpatient units. Jaspr Health is an artificial intelligence-enabled digital technology platform used as a tool by trained staff that enables the delivery of suicide prevention best practices to individuals experiencing a suicidal crisis. As a companion app, it accompanies the individual experiencing suicidal crisis home to provide ongoing support during the high-risk period that follows the hospital discharge. All these services are provided through partnerships with hospitals in King and Stevens County, outpatient agencies, training organizations and a domestic violence provider.

Eligibility requirements
Adults, 25 and older, who have attempted suicide or experienced a suicidal crisis.

2020-2022 budget
This grant began in July 31, 2020 and ends February 15, 2022. The overall budget for the grant is $800,000 to support services provided to enrolled participants.

People served
Over the project period we have served 220 individuals and trained 2145 professionals in effective suicide prevention.

Key partners
- Portland DBT Institute
- Harborview Medical Center
- Providence Health and Services
- Northeast Washington Alliance Counseling Services New Beginnings
- Forefront Suicide Prevention
- Center for Suicide Prevention and Recovery

Oversight
DBHR contracts with BHI to deliver programs and services and then manages the contracts to ensure effective implementation and reporting in order to process payments. Overseeing the implementation of the project is a Project Director at HCA and BHI.

For more information
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