



BYLAWS
Missouri Suicide Prevention Network (MSPN)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ARTICLE I.	NAME.....	2
ARTICLE II.	ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW.....	2
ARTICLE III.	MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS	2
ARTICLE IV.	OFFICERS	4
ARTICLE V.	COMMITTEES	4
ARTICLE VI.	COPROPORATE ACTIONS	5

By-Laws

MISSOURI SUICIDE PREVENTION NETWORK

ARTICLE I – NAME

The name of the organization shall be Missouri Suicide Prevention Network (hereinafter referred to as “MSPN”). MSPN shall be an independent, non-partisan, voluntary group of individuals, organizations, and agencies (public and private) who lead statewide suicide prevention efforts.

ARTICLE II – ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

MISSION STATEMENT

Missouri Suicide Prevention Network shall lead statewide suicide prevention efforts.

PURPOSE

MSPN’s goal is to coordinate development and implementation of the Missouri Suicide Prevention Plan, based on the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.

MSPN will work to support the following strategies:

- Awareness that suicide is a public health problem that is preventable.
- Broad-based support for suicide prevention.
- Strategies to reduce the social stigma associated with mental health, substance use, and suicide.
- Suicide prevention programs.
- Existing statewide suicide prevention efforts.
- Evidence-based means safety in accordance with clinical care standards.
- Evidence-based suicide prevention trainings.
- Effective clinical and professional practices.
- Linkage with community mental health and substance use disorder services.
- Use of media reporting guidelines and positive portrayals of persons living with mental illness, substance use, and suicide.
- Research on suicide and suicide prevention.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP AND MEETINGS

Members

The members of MSPN shall act in accordance with their prescribed roles and in a manner that is appropriate to the executive committee of MSPN (eg: representing MSPN’s mission and goals as defined).

Member Role Overview

The responsibility of MSPN members is to provide to the executive committee recommendations and advisement to support MSPN's overall mission, and work to eliminate the stigma of suicide, educate the community about suicide, and ultimately reduce the rate of suicide in our state.

MSPN will serve as a collective voice representing a broad spectrum of key stakeholders in the area of suicide prevention, ensuring that MSPN's operations and activities are informed by a full, balanced range of experienced viewpoints that are invested in its mission. MSPN will provide a forum for review and discussion of reports to and from the Executive Committee, the committees and workgroups, as well as any promotional materials, research, training, legislation or other external factors that may affect the vital operations of MSPN. MSPN's recommendations to the executive committee will support the continued advancement and development of MSPN towards more effectively accomplishing its mission, as noted above.

Nomination of Membership

Members are appointed by the Executive Committee. Membership shall consist of State and community health care professionals, suicide loss survivors, suicide attempt survivors, and members of the community dedicated to suicide prevention. MSPN shall strive to promote cultural and geographic diversity within the membership.

MSPN Meeting Schedule

MSPN shall meet a minimum of five (5) times per calendar year.

Special Meetings of the Network

Special meetings of MSPN may be called by the Chair or Vice-Chair. These meetings may be conducted via phone.

Voting

Eligible voting members are the Chair, Vice-Chair, immediate past Chair of the Executive Committee and those appointed to MSPN by the Executive Committee. Passing votes will be that of the majority present.

Resignation

A member may resign at any time by delivering written notice to MSPN and the Chair. A resignation is effective when the notice is delivered unless the notice specifies a later effective date.

Membership Status

If a member is unable to fulfill membership responsibilities including regular attendance, active involvement, and professional conduct to support the mission of MSPN they may be removed by the Executive Committee.

Member Replacement and the Appointment Process

MSPN seats may become available through a variety of means. Some examples include: a member leaves on his/her own volition; a member is asked to leave due to insufficient attendance, and/or behavior that significantly disrupts MSPN business, and/or is not in the best interests of the project's mission, goals and objectives as determined by the Executive Committee; or the Executive Committee determines additional representation is needed.

ARTICLE IV – OFFICERS

Officers

The officers of MSPN shall be the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Executive Committee.

Resignation

An officer may resign at any time by delivering official notice to MSPN and the executive committee. Such resignation is effective when such notice is delivered unless notice specifies a later effective date.

Vacancy

Any vacancy for any cause shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

Duties of the Chair

The Chair or designated representative shall facilitate all MSPN meetings. The Chair may attend any Committee meeting. The Chair will, in turn, provide leadership and oversight of MSPN. Chair responsibilities include providing oversight of MSPN activities, overseeing committees and subsequent workgroups (as needed) and assuring compliance with MSPN by-laws.

Duties of the Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair shall assist the Chair by facilitating meetings in the absence of the Chair. The Vice-Chair may attend any committee meeting at the request of the Chair.

Term

The term of office for officers shall be two (2) years beginning October 30th.

ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be appointed by the Department of Mental Health and Missouri Coalition for Community Behavioral Healthcare, which will include the Chair, Vice-Chair, immediate past Chair, the DMH Suicide Prevention Coordinator, the Coalition's MSPN Project Manager, and any other members deemed necessary.

The Executive Committee shall conduct necessary business of MSPN between meetings.

Appointment of Committees

The Executive Committee may, in turn, designate subcommittees when the scope of issues is so broad and/or extensive that they require additional input and work process from experts, members of MSPN, and others in the suicidology community. Additionally, on an as-needed basis, MSPN members may recommend consultation from outside sources who exhibit expertise or knowledge of importance to the issues before MSPN.

ARTICLE VI – CORPORATE ACTIONS

Amendments

Suggested amendments must be emailed to admin@mospn.org and approved by the Executive Committee 14 days prior to the regularly scheduled meeting. Amendments then may be introduced to MSPN and may be approved with majority vote.

DRAFT: September 27, 2018

Effective Date: October 30, 2018

Revised: October 30, 2018