



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

ROBERT GORDON  
DIRECTOR

## Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission

*February 19, 2021*

*10:30 AM – 12:30 PM*

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

**Conference Line: 248-509-0316**

**Access Code: 565105576#**

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order – Brian Ahmedani**
  - a. Roll Call
  - b. Virtual Decorum
  - c. Bylaws Amendments (see attached)
- II. Public Comment**
- III. Review and Adopt January 2021 Meeting Minutes**
- IV. Review and Adopt January 2021 Special Meeting Minutes**
- V. MDHHS Updates**
  - a. Injury Violence Prevention – Jennifer DeLaCruz/Pat Smith
  - b. Funding Opportunity – James Bell III
  - c. Subcommittee Support – James Bell III
- VI. Initial Report Discussion – Nancy Buyle**
  - a. Draft Feedback
- VII. Dissemination Strategy – Nancy Buyle**
- VIII. Other Updates**
- IX. Next Steps**
  - a. Action Item Recap – James Bell
- X. Public Comment (time permitting)**
- XI. Adjourn**

## **Upcoming Meetings**

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Workforce Subcommittee Meeting**

March 9, 2021

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Policy Subcommittee Meeting**

March 9, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Data Subcommittee Meeting**

March 10, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Special Populations Subcommittee Meeting**

March 12, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Meeting**

March 19, 2021

10:30 – 12:30 PM

*Please contact James Bell for Subcommittee Chair contact information.*

February 2021 Suicide Prevention Commission Attendance Report

	Name	Present	Not Present
1	Shaun Abbey		
2	Zaneta Adams		
3	Brian Ahmedani		
4	William Becroft		
5	Debra Brinson		
6	Nancy Buyle		
7	Adelle Cadieux		
8	Richard Copen		
9	Jessica DeJohn		
10	Sarah Derwin		
11	Amber Desgranges		
12	Corey Doan		
13	Kevin Frank Fischer		
14	Cathrine Frank		
15	John Greden		
16	Danny Hagen		
17	Cary Johnson		
18	John Joseph		
19	Laurin Jozlin		
20	Jennifer Morgan		
21	Thomas Reich		
22	Ryan Schroerlucke		
23	Barbara Smith		
24	Corbin Standley		
25	Kiran Taylor		
26	Kenneth Wolf		
	James Bell		
	Jennifer DeLaCruz		
	Debra Pinals		
	Linda Scarpetta		
	Patricia Smith		
	Orlando Todd		
	Jeff Spitzley		
	Rachel Zaguskin		



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**Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission**

*January 15, 2021*

*10:30 AM – 1:30 PM*

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

**Conference Line: 248-509-0316**

**Access Code: 565105576#**

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order – Brian Ahmedani**

- a. Roll Call  
Brian Ahmedani, Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 10:32 AM. The roll was taken, and a quorum of members were present.
- a. Virtual Decorum

**II. Public Comment**

Public comment was provided by Bob Goble, James Gallant, Catherine Galdes, Amy Skelly and James Bell III.

**III. Review and Adopt December 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Jessica DeJohn motioned to approve the December 2020 Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission Meeting minutes. Corey Doan seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

**IV. MDHHS Updates**

- a. Injury Violence Prevention Section – Jennifer DeLaCruz/Pat Smith  
Jennifer DeLaCruz provided an update on the Preventing Suicide in Michigan Men (PRISM) project. The section has hired a Project Coordinator – Kristen Smith. There are two other positions that are required: A Communications Specialist and Epidemiologist. Both positions have been posted through the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI).

Kristen Smith introduced herself to the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission.

**V. Breach of the Peace Protocol Discussion – Nancy Buyle**

Nancy Buyle facilitated a discussion regarding a breach of the peace protocol. The Attorney General's office provided guidance on two potential options:

- a. First, warn the individual. Second, remove the individual.
- b. First, warn the individual. Second, mute the individual. Third, remove the individual from the meeting.

Shaun Abbey motioned to accept the breach of the peace protocol as: first warn the individual, second mute the individual, and third remove the individual from the meeting. Zaneta Adams seconded the motion. Zaneta Adams added if there are instances of name-calling, should result in immediate removal.

Shaun Abbey amended his motion to accept the breach of the peace protocol as: first warn the individual, second mute the individual, and third remove the individual from the meeting and if the individual practices name-calling they should be removed. Zaneta Adams seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **VI. Initial Report Discussion**

The Commission continued reviewing the proposed Recommendation Revisions for the Initial Report. The following recommendations were identified as complete:

- Sustain a coordinated central point of access where suicide prevention resources and training are accessible to the community.
- Promote connectedness programs in neighborhoods, communities and among cultural groups and high-risk populations to reduce stigma.
- Collaborate with licensing and certifying organizations to ensure that healthcare, school counselors, teachers, and other professionals receive formalized training in suicide prevention/intervention as part of the credentialing process.
- Require content on suicide assessment, treatment, and management in health science and social service courses taught in higher education.
- Encourage and educate the public at large including employers and employees to work with employee assistance programs to promote awareness of services offered and promote easy access to behavioral health treatment services.
- Recommend standardized training to include toxicology draws and regular auditing of training for medical examiners in the investigation and reporting of suicide deaths.
- Explore, identify and consider implementation use of evidence-based peer support programs as a model for suicide prevention as more evidence is provided.
- Create and distribute comprehensive suicide prevention and toolkits and obtain permissions to adapt to their specific settings.
- Foster collaboration and partnership among public, private, non-profit and community entities.

- Train communities to identify suicide risk and effectively intervene and support individuals in crisis.
- Educate communities on the prevalence of suicide and how to provide appropriate support and resources to those experiencing suicidal thoughts and behaviors.
- Sustain a coordinated central point of access where suicide prevention resources and training are accessible to the community.
- Sustain a coordinated central point of access where suicide prevention resources and training are accessible to the community.
- Expand the use of evidence-based screening, assessment and suicide-specific prevention interventions across all identified special populations.

Two additional recommendations will be added based on public comment today.

Shaun Abbey motioned to approve the agreed upon recommendations for inclusion in the Initial Report. Bill Beecroft seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Nancy Buyle motioned to schedule a special meeting to finalize the recommendations. John Greden seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

## **VII. Other Updates**

No updates.

## **VIII. Next Steps**

- a. Initial Report Recommendations Timeline – James Bell
- b. Action Item Recap – James Bell
  - i. Recommendations will be consolidated when applicable and synthesized.
  - ii. A Special Meeting will be scheduled later this month to finalize recommendations.

## **IX. Public Comment (time permitting)**

A second Public Comment was not provided due to this meeting running out of time.

## **X. Adjourn**

Jessica DeJohn motioned to adjourn the January 2021 Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission Meeting. Richard Copen seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM.

The meeting recording can be found [here](#).

## **Upcoming Meetings**

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Workforce Subcommittee Meeting**

February 9, 2021

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Policy Subcommittee Meeting**

February 9, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Data Subcommittee Meeting**

February 10, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Special Populations Subcommittee Meeting**

February 12, 2021

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

### **Suicide Prevention Commission Meeting**

February 19, 2021

10:30 – 12:30 (tentative)

January 2021 Suicide Prevention Commission Attendance Report

	Name	Present	Not Present
1	Shaun Abbey	X	
2	Zaneta Adams	X	
3	Brian Ahmedani	X	
4	William Beecroft	X	
5	Lily Bothe		X
6	Debra Brinson	X	
7	Nancy Buyle	X	
8	Adelle Cadieux	X	
9	Richard Copen	X	
10	Jessica DeJohn	X	
11	Sarah Derwin		X
12	Amber Desgranges	X	
13	Corey Doan	X	
14	Kevin Frank Fischer	X	
15	Cathrine Frank	X	
16	John Greden	X	
17	Danny Hagen	X	
18	Cary Johnson		X
19	John Joseph	X	
20	Laurin Jozlin	X	
21	Jennifer Morgan		X
22	Thomas Reich	X	
23	Ryan Schroerlucke	X	
24	Barbara Smith	X	
25	Corbin Standley	X	
26	Kiran Taylor	X	
27	Kenneth Wolf	X	
	James Bell	X	
	Jennifer DeLaCruz	X	
	Linda Scarpetta	X	
	Patricia Smith	X	
	Orlando Todd		
	Jeff Spitzley	X	
	Rachel Zaguskin	X	





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## Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission

January 25, 2021

9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Conference Line: 248-509-0316

Access Code: 565105576#

### MINUTES

#### I. Call to Order – Brian Ahmedani

a. Roll Call

Brian Ahmedani, Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM. The roll was taken, and a quorum of members were present.

b. Virtual Decorum

#### II. Public Comment

Public Comment was provided by James Gallant, Dr. Cheryl King

#### III. Initial Report Discussion – James Bell

The Commission continued reviewing the proposed Recommendation Revisions for the Initial Report. The following recommendations were identified as complete:

- Identify opportunities and reporting mechanisms for machine learning and artificial intelligence to monitor and intervene for individuals with trends/patterns for suicidality.
- Distribute a form for law enforcement for suspected suicide death.
- Explore and consider implementation use of evidence-based peer support programs as a model for suicide prevention as more evidence is provided.
- Annually monitor the use and effectiveness of evidence-based screening, assessment and suicide-specific treatments for those at risk and improve, as necessary.
- Encourage health care organizations to establish referral agreements between care settings and outpatient providers to ensure recently discharged high risk patients have appointments within seven days.
- Explore and implement/ *select alternative and available* models of care for suicide at-risk patients (24-hour care, residential crisis, etc.) *and incorporate the least restrictive and effective levels of care.*
- Encourage implementation of post discharge follow-up contacts with at risk individuals
- Support primary care practices in adopting suicide prevention protocols to build *suicide care pathways.*

- Support innovative ways to expand access to care, including technologies such as telehealth, machine learning, artificial intelligence, and non-clinical supports.
- Develop and provide guidance to *Medical Examiners and Suicide Death Review Teams*. (tentative)
- Improve qualitative review and documentation of suicide risk among special populations through interviews, focus groups, etc.
- Assure that initial screening for suicidal behavior is conducted and accurately documented during hospital or emergency department intake.
- Standardizing a *statewide comprehensive* assessment tool inclusive of suicide prevention elements.
- Creating/expanding death review boards that allows communities to review information in a confidential way related to suicide death.
- Encourage providers who interact with individuals at risk for suicide to routinely assess for access to lethal means as part of an overall educational effort
- Partner with firearm advocacy groups and retailers, (shooting clubs, manufacturers, firearm retail insurers, concealed handgun instructors, *hunting groups*, law enforcement, farm and ranch associations and veteran's groups) to increase suicide prevention awareness
- Promote and distribute tools/strategies to *support safe storage* (such as gun locks, safes, and medication lock boxes/bags, etc.)
- Work with military agencies, *veterans organizations* and *law enforcement* to establish specialized trainings/ projects to reduce *potential for suicide related deaths by firearms*.
- Create materials to educate individuals and families about limiting access to lethal means- storage of alcoholic beverages, prescription drugs, over the counter medications and poisons.
- Promote the adoption of a zero suicide prevention care model in health systems (*which includes screenings, assessment and interventions*)
- Encourage that treatment of suicidal individuals is differentiated accordingly to provide the most effective treatment given individual's mental health needs
- When providing appropriate intervention for suicidal individuals this commission recommends that providers/interveners utilize appropriate interventions in the least restrictive environment first
- Mandate toxicology reports on autopsies for suspected or likely suicide deaths.

Jessica DeJohn motioned to approve the agreed upon recommendations for inclusion in the Initial Report. John Joseph seconded the motion. John Greden added there should be recommendations about ongoing research and evaluation for all the included recommendations and to collaborate with other states for reducing suicide.

Jessica DeJohn amended her motion to approve the agreed upon recommendation and to include John Greden's two additional recommendations in the Initial Report. Shaun Abbey seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **IV. Next Steps**

- January 25 – January 29: MDHHS compiling recommendations and drafting Initial Report
- February 1: Initial Review by Injury Violence Prevention Section, Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities Administration and Suicide Prevention Commission Members
- February 12: Deadline to submit Evidence Based Practices and other Michigan based Initiatives
- February 19: Draft Initial Report finalized and approved by the Commission
- February 22: MDHHS Communications and Public Health Administration review
- March 19: Initial Report Submission

#### **V. Public Comment (time permitting)**

A second Public Comment was not provided due to this meeting running out of time.

#### **VI. Adjourn**

Shaun Abbey motioned to adjourn the Suicide Prevention Commission Special Meeting. Jessica DeJohn seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM.

The meeting recording can be found [here](#).

January 2021 Suicide Prevention Commission Special Meeting Attendance Report

	Name	Present	Not Present
1	Shaun Abbey	X	
2	Zaneta Adams	X	
3	Brian Ahmedani	X	
4	William Becroft	X	
5	Lily Bothe (Resigned)		X
6	Debra Brinson	X	
7	Nancy Buyle		X
8	Adelle Cadieux	X	
9	Richard Copen	X	
10	Jessica DeJohn	X	
11	Sarah Derwin		X
12	Amber Desgranges		X
13	Corey Doan	X	
14	Kevin Frank Fischer	X	
15	Cathrine Frank	X	
16	John Greden	X	
17	Danny Hagen	X	
18	Cary Johnson		X
19	John Joseph		X
20	Laurin Jozlin	X	
21	Jennifer Morgan		
22	Thomas Reich		X
23	Ryan Schroerlucke		X
24	Barbara Smith	X	
25	Corbin Standley	X	
26	Kiran Taylor		X
27	Kenneth Wolf	X	
	James Bell	X	
	Jennifer DeLaCruz	X	
	Linda Scarpetta	X	
	Patricia Smith		
	Orlando Todd		
	Jeff Spitzley		
	Rachel Zaguskin	X	

## BYLAWS

### Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission

#### DEFINITIONS:

*“Commission” refers to the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission*

*“Executive Committee” refers to the Executive Committee of the Suicide Prevention Commission*

*“Director” refers to the Director of the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services*

*“Department” refers to Michigan Department of Health and Human Services*

*“Chair” refers to the Chair of the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission*

*“Co-Chair” refers to the back-up to the Chair*

*“State” refers to the State of Michigan*

*“The Act” refers to Public Act 177 of 2019, MCL 330.3001, et seq.*

#### ARTICLE I: NAME

The name of this Commission shall be the Michigan Suicide Prevention Commission.

#### ARTICLE II: PURPOSE

The purpose of this Commission is to:

- A. Work with State departments, agencies and nonprofit organizations to understand causes, factors, or reasons for suicide in order to develop strategies to assist in reducing incidents of suicide in the State.

#### ARTICLE III: FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

- A. Pursuant to the Act, the Commission shall prepare and present a preliminary report of its research and findings to the legislature.
- B. Within one year after the effective date of this Act, and each year thereafter, prepare and present to the legislature an updated version of the report. The updated version of this report must include recommendations for reducing risk factors among the demographics described in the preliminary report and contain a list of evidence-based programs for suicide prevention in Michigan with successful outcomes.
- C. Annually review and update any recommendations made under this Act, and if any of the Commission’s recommendations are implemented, provide a process for ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the recommendations.
- D. Provide recommendations for a process for continued State coordination on suicide data collection, suicide prevention programs and a coordinated state approach to the prevention of suicide to continue after this Act no longer applies.

#### ARTICLE IV: MEMBERSHIP

- A. Voting membership of the Commission is outlined in [MCL 330.3003, et seq](#) or any subsequent Executive Orders related to the Commission.
- B. Members are required to attend, either in person or remotely by phone or other means, 50% of the meetings during any consecutive 12-month period.
- C. Members should notify the Chair of all absences prior to the meeting when possible.
- D. Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation. However, members of the Commission may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties as members of the Commission.

#### ARTICLE V: OFFICERS

The only designated officer of the Commission is the Chair. The Commission shall elect from among its members a chairperson and other officers as it considers necessary or appropriate.

- A. The Chair:
  - a. May remove a member of the Commission for incompetence, dereliction of duty, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office, or any other good causes, on a motion that is approved by most of the members of the Commission.
  - b. Convenes and chairs all meetings of the Commission.
  - c. Oversees the overall function of the Commission.
  - d. Appoints members to committees or workgroups as necessary to conduct the Commissions' business.
  - e. Orients new members.
- B. The Co-Chair:
  - a. Convenes and chairs meetings in the Chair's absence
  - b. Assists the Chair in duties necessary to keep the work of the Commission moving forward

#### ARTICLE VI: MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

- A. The current edition of Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings.
- B. The Commission is legislatively mandated to meet at least four (4) times a year. The Chair may schedule work sessions, as necessary.
- C. The duties charged to the Commission by the Act must be conducted at a public meeting of the Commission held in compliance with the open meetings act (1976 PA 267, MCL 15.261 to 15.275) and therefore, open to public attendance.
  - a. The agenda for each regular and special meeting of the Commission will include an item devoted to public comment. Public comment may occur at the beginning or end of the meeting.
  - b. The Commission will limit public comment to three minutes per person at any Commission meeting. A second public comment period will be included in agendas and implemented at the Chairperson's discretion.
  - c. The public has no right to address the commission during its deliberation on a particular matter. Threatening, obscene and abusive comments or behavior will

not be allowed at Commission meetings, nor may persons addressing the Commission in any way inhibit the decorum of meetings. Failure to comply with this will result in individuals being removed from the meeting, pursuant to MCL 15.263(6). If any member of the public commits a breach of the peace at a Commission meeting, the Chairperson may provide one (1) verbal warning to that individual that they are committing a breach of the peace. If the individual commits another breach of the peace, the Chairperson will mute the individual's line or ask the individual to remain silence. Should another breach of the peace occur, the Chairperson will terminate the individual's participation for the remainder of the meeting, pursuant to MCL 15.263(6).

- d. For purposes of this Commission, a "breach of the peace" includes, but is not limited to, the following: an individual disobeying time limits, becoming repetitious, name-calling, shouting, disrupting the orderly progress of the meeting, inappropriate or insensitive comments regarding the subject matter, or any threatening comment and/or language directed at another individual. This is not an exhaustive list.
- D. The majority of voting members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of any business.
- E. The Commission may adopt such other procedures as necessary to ensure the orderly transaction of business, including the creation of subcommittees or workgroups.
- F. The Chair may, with consent of the Commission, designate additional individuals, including interested citizens, educators, or specialists with relevant expertise, to serve on any subcommittee or workgroup.
- G. The Commission may consult with State agencies to obtain such technical assistance as it deems necessary to complete its duties.

#### ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES AND TASKFORCES

The Commission may establish subcommittees or taskforces as is deemed necessary or desirable to carry out Commission responsibilities. The Executive Committee shall be ex officio members of all committees. Only voting members of the Commission shall be entitled to serve as chairs of committees or taskforces. Members will self-select appointments on committees with no committee consisting of fewer than three members. Among each committee, members will select a Chairperson to lead.

Each committee or workgroup shall:

- A. Be chaired by a member of the Commission.
- B. Convene at least four (4) times a year, either in person or remotely.
- C. Contribute information, strategies and recommendations for their committee/workgroup focus to the preliminary report, initial report, updated annual reports or state plan.
- D. Provide other deliverables as requested.

#### ARTICLE VIII: AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the voting members of the Commission at any regular meeting of the Commission; provided, however, that no proposed amendment shall be acted upon unless the written text of the amendment is sent to each member of the Commission at least fourteen days prior to the vote.