

# Senior Administrator Buy In

SAMHSA Suicide Prevention Grantee  
Technical Assistance Meeting

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Presented by:

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## Key Factors

- Educational
- Financial
- Legal
- Culture & Climate
- Public Relations

*At the end of the day, even administrators are responsible for fulfilling the mission of the institution.*

## Educational

- Link strategies to institutional mission
- Link strategies to academic outcomes, i.e. learning objectives
- Provide training and resources to faculty in dealing with distressed students
- Road Show – take your program on the road

## Financial

- Demonstrate how services improve retention
- Institute health fee to support services/program
- Plan for sustainability

## Legal

- Current law and trends. Standard of care set by Supreme Court of Iowa in Jain v. Iowa. Implications of Shin v. MIT.
- Virginia Tech
- ADA and FERPA
- Get institution legal counsel involved

## Culture/Climate

- Track counseling services
  - Referrals
- Changes in behaviors
  - Quantitative and Qualitative data
- Residential Life - Gatekeeper
- Give key individuals responsibility:
  - Registrar, academic deans, dean of students, advisement, first year experience staff, student services staff

## Public Relations

- Become PR experts
- Get the media to do stories on your grant/program/services
- Have students “tell their story”
- Get “what you do out there”
- Develop strong community support and relationships

## Other Thoughts

- No surprises – administrators do not like to be caught off guard; keep them informed
- Be informed and knowledgeable about how suicide impacts all facets of the institution – have the data
  - Know trends and new legislation
  - Read the Chronicle of Higher Education

## Other Thoughts

- Billie Joel – “everyone is practicing politics”
- Look for the “low impact” opportunities
- Build relationships with key administrators – take them to lunch, everyone needs to eat

## The Rule of “Be”

Be:

“in touch”

“informed”

“intentional”

“institutional thinker”

“influential”

“instructional”

“innovative”

“integrated”

“in gratitude”

“interested”

## Thank You

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