

Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health



Campus-Community Collaborative Grant Grantee One Page Summary

University of Rio Grande and Rio Grande Community College

The purpose of these grants is to promote collaboration between college/university and community stakeholders to develop programming to prevent suicide, promote mental health and reduce stigma about mental illness or its treatment on campus.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

School gatekeeper training: This type of program is designed to help school staff identify and refer students at risk for suicide. These programs also teach staff how to respond to suicide or other crises in the school. **Community gatekeeper training:** These programs train community members and clinical health-care providers who see adolescent and young adult patients to identify and refer persons in this age group who are at risk for suicide.

Screening programs: A questionnaire or other screening instrument is used to identify high-risk adolescents and young adults and provide further assessment and treatment. **Peer support programs:** These programs, which can be conducted in or outside of school, are designed to foster peer relationships and competency in social skills among high-risk adolescents and young adults.

General suicide education: Students learn about suicide, its warning signs, and how to seek help for themselves or others. These programs often incorporate a variety of activities that develop self-esteem and social competency. **Crisis centers and hotlines:** Trained volunteers and paid staff provide telephone counseling and other services for suicidal persons. Such programs also may offer a "drop-in" crisis center and referral to mental health services.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

Charitable Basketball Tournament: Engaged students, staff, and faculty while sharing resources regarding suicide and suicidal ideation. The tournament was established to recognize a former student whose life was lost to suicide. Audience members, and several participating teams, raised money to help fund a scholarship in the student's name. This scholarship will be awarded to future students whose life has been affected by mental health struggles.

Men's Mental Health Panel: We identified volunteers from across campus to serve on a panel and provide the audience with information, skills, and reflections on their own experiences with mental health. The panel was made up of staff, faculty, students, and a representative from Health Recovery Services (HRS). Our Director of Mental Wellbeing facilitated the conversation and allowed audience participation, and although the audience was small, they came wanting to know more about how they could spread a positive and supportive message to males on campus.

Hope Fest: Established as a resource for campus and the community to better understand how local organizations can and do support mental health in the area. It is also a time to recognize and remember the loved ones that the Rio community have lost to suicide. Sponsored by the OPCSMDH and Health Recovery Resources (HRS), featuring live music, a silent auction, kid's events, and a luminary lighting, **Hope Fest raised over \$3000** to support future efforts by Rio and other partners.

Health Fair: Offered a mental health component and the partnership with health Recovery Services allowed us to amplify a message that both physical and mental health should be given proper care. HRS was able to emcee the event, which again allowed all our participants and partners to be highlighted. They provided a cheerful energy to the event which helped it become one of the most successful health fairs in recent years. **One barrier** that prevented us from providing additional events was staffing.

| Event | Basketball Tournament | Men's Mental Health Panel | Hope Fest | Health Fair |
|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| Attendance | 82 | 21 | 115 | 225 |