

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: OHIO ZERO SUICIDE ACADEMY™

**May 10-11, 2016**

**Cincinnati, Ohio**

**Application Deadline:** Friday, April 15, 2016 by 2pm ET

**Sponsoring Organization:** The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) has launched a statewide initiative to reduce the rate of suicide deaths in Ohio. OhioMHAS is offering six Zero Suicide Academies™ in Ohio to enhance and expand the available prevention, treatment, and postvention services available to Ohioans. Training health care organizations in the Zero Suicide approach will improve the ability of health care providers to better support individuals who are at risk of suicide. Institutional adoption of the Zero Suicide framework will allow for a broad impact leading to systemic change to reduce the rate of suicide deaths across the state.

**Zero Suicide Academy™ Description:** The Zero Suicide Academy™ is a two-day training for senior leaders of health and behavioral health care organizations that seek to dramatically reduce suicides among patients in their care including patients with serious mental health disorders. Using the Zero Suicide framework, participants learn how to incorporate best and promising practices into their organizations and processes to improve care and safety for individuals at risk. Zero Suicide faculty provide both interactive presentations and small group sessions, and collaborate with participants to develop organization-specific action plans. The objectives of the Zero Suicide Academy™ are to (a) provide organizations interested in adopting a Zero Suicide approach with the skills and information necessary to launch their effort; (b) create collaborative links between the organizations launching these initiatives in order to provide mentorship and support so that the perspectives, knowledge, and skills of each inform the work of the others; and (c) develop implementation plans for the Zero Suicide initiatives at each participating organization. The Zero Suicide Academy™ is presented by EDC.

**Zero Suicide is a key concept of the [2012 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention \(NSSP\)](#).**

The NSSP calls for suicide prevention to be a core component of health care services and for the implementation of effective clinical and professional practices for assessing and treating those at risk for suicide. Objective 8.1 specifically promotes the adoption of “zero suicides” as an aspirational goal by health care and community support systems that provide services and support to defined patient populations.

**Zero Suicide is a priority of the [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention \(Action Alliance\)](#).**

The Action Alliance is the public-private partnership advancing the NSSP by championing suicide prevention as a national priority, catalyzing efforts to implement high-priority objectives of the NSSP, and cultivating the resources needed to sustain progress. Zero Suicide builds on the momentum of the 2011 report released by the Action Alliance’s Clinical Care and Intervention Task Force, [Suicide Care in Systems Framework](#).

**Zero Suicide Model:** The Zero Suicide model aims to improve care and outcomes for individuals at risk of suicide seen in health care systems. To assist health and behavioral health care organizations in developing and implementing a Zero Suicide approach, [www.zerosuicide.com](http://www.zerosuicide.com) offers an evolving online toolkit. Zero Suicide is a comprehensive approach which includes the following dimensions:

1. Create a leadership-driven, safety-oriented culture committed to dramatically reducing suicide among people under care. Include suicide attempt and loss survivors in leadership and planning roles.
2. Develop a competent, confident, and caring workforce.
3. Systematically identify and assess suicide risk among people receiving care.
4. Ensure every person has a suicide care management plan, or pathway to care, that is both timely and adequate to meet his or her needs. Include collaborative safety planning and restriction of lethal means.
5. Use effective, evidence-based treatments that directly target suicidality.
6. Provide continuous contact and support, especially after acute care.
7. Apply a data-driven quality improvement approach to inform system changes that will lead to improved patient outcomes and better care for those at risk.

**Eligibility:** Applications for the Zero Suicide Academy™ on May 10 -11, 2016 are being sought from clinical care providers in behavioral health and primary care settings as well as federally qualified health centers in the Summit Behavioral Healthcare Region. Priority will be given to organizations who serve clients in the identified region.

The Zero Suicide Academy™ is not an orientation to the Zero Suicide initiative, but is geared for organizations that are ready to adopt and implement a Zero Suicide approach. Applicants must come with a team of 4 individuals. At least one individual must be a senior level administrative leader positioned to ensure the Zero Suicide approach is embedded into the organization. At least one individual must be a senior mental health clinician who can represent the current knowledge and skills of the clinical staff. Organizations are encouraged to include individuals with lived experience of suicidal ideation or behavior who can provide insight into the impact of organizational practices on people seeking care.

**Costs:** Selected organizations will receive a stipend to assist in the implementation of completed Zero Suicide plans and will be required to participate in a nine month Zero Suicide Learning Community beginning in June 2016.

**Commitment Post-Academy:** Selected organization will be required to participate in a nine-month Zero Suicide Learning Community beginning Summer 2016. OhioMHAS will support the Zero Suicide Learning Community infrastructure with guidance from EDC. This infrastructure will support organizations in the implementation of Zero Suicide plans and will allow for interaction with other organizations to share experiences to further develop knowledge, skills, and abilities to sustain efforts across Ohio. Learning Communities will be 90 minute, monthly webinars addressing a variety of topics related to implementing zero suicide plans. Ohio Zero Suicide mentors will be identified and will provide opportunities to expand and support Zero Suicide efforts across Ohio.

**Application:** The Zero Suicide Academy™ application consists of:

1. A cover sheet, using the template provided at the end of this document. **The lead applicant will receive all correspondence and must be one of the four team members.**
2. A letter of commitment written by the organization's CEO or Director. The Director should review and approve the submission and agree to the strategy proposed.
3. A narrative that, in no more than six pages (single spaced and 12-point font), responds to the following:
  - a. Briefly describe your organization and what has been done to date to reduce suicide among clients. Please describe collaborations with Suicide Prevention Coalitions, LOSS Teams, and other local prevention efforts that would support and enhance the implementation of Zero Suicide within your organization.
  - b. Briefly describe the members of your team, including those with lived experience, and the relevant skills, knowledge, career goals, and experience they bring to the Zero Suicide Academy™. Indicate who within your organization will have primary responsibility for implementation of Zero Suicide as a systems change.
  - c. Provide an example of another type of systems change that has been attempted within your organization. What was accomplished and what was learned that informs your participation in this project?
  - d. Drawing heavily from the [www.zerosuicide.com](http://www.zerosuicide.com) toolkit, how do you plan to successfully embed and sustain comprehensive suicide care in your organization? Include aims, description of approach, implementation plan, and timeline.
  - e. What are your team's goals for participating in the Zero Suicide Academy™ and what does the team hope to learn during the training? Affirm that your organization has the capacity to implement the Zero Suicide model and that you will be able to fulfill all participant expectations.
4. A Zero Suicide Organizational Self-Study, completed by the team members. The Self-Study can be found at <http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/resources/zero-suicide-organizational-self-study>.

**Selection Criteria:** The review committee will rate applications based on their merit in responding to this application. The review committee reserves the right to select participants who are representative of geographical and organizational diversity. Applications will be judged using the following criteria:

1. The CEO or Director's knowledge of and commitment to the Zero Suicide initiative.
2. The feasibility of the timeline and work plan.
3. The organization's plans and expectations for embedding the Zero Suicide model into care as outlined in the [www.zerosuicide.com](http://www.zerosuicide.com) toolkit.
4. Demonstrated commitment to collaboration among team members.
5. The incorporation of persons with lived experience in leadership and planning roles.
6. The organizations commitment to collaborate with community partners.

**Timeline:**

Application released	March 16, 2016
Application due	April 15, 2016
Applicants notified of their status	April 22, 2016
Zero Suicide Academy™ conducted	May 10-11, 2016

**Application Deadline and Submission:** Application materials should be submitted via e-mail as two PDF files to Clayton Kratz, Zero Suicide Administrative Coordinator, at [ckratz@edc.org](mailto:ckratz@edc.org) by April 15, 2016 at 2pm ET. One PDF should include the following items in the following order: Cover sheet, Letter of commitment, and Narrative. The other PDF should consist of the completed Zero Suicide Organizational Self-Study. The subject line of the email should read: Cincinnati Zero Suicide Academy™ Application.

The lead applicant will be notified via email by April 22, 2016 about your application status.

**Questions:** Please contact Clayton Kratz, Zero Suicide Administrative Coordinator, at [ckratz@edc.org](mailto:ckratz@edc.org).

## Cincinnati, Ohio Zero Suicide Academy™ Application Cover Sheet

<b>Organization Name:</b>		
<b>City, State:</b>		
<b>Lead Applicant</b>		
<b>Name, Degrees:</b>		
Job Title:		
Phone Number:		
Email Address:		
<b>Other Team Members</b>		
<b>Name, Degrees:</b>		
Job Title:		
Email Address:		
<b>Name, Degrees:</b>		
Job Title:		
Email Address:		
<b>Name, Degrees:</b>		
Job Title:		
Email Address:		
<b>Type of organization (check all that apply):</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Community mental health center <input type="checkbox"/> Other behavioral health organization (e.g. alcohol and drug treatment, community psychiatric rehab, crisis response) <input type="checkbox"/> Federally qualified health center <input type="checkbox"/> Inpatient hospital <input type="checkbox"/> Integrated delivery system <input type="checkbox"/> Private insurer <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please describe:		<b>Please list other practice transformation initiatives (e.g., trauma informed care, just in time scheduling, collaborative documentation, expansion of peer workforce, etc.) your organization is currently working on.</b>
<b>Number of clients served annually by your organization:</b>		
<b>Number of service sites:</b>		
<b>Total number of staff employed or contracted (include both clinical and non-clinical):</b>		
<b>Which population is your organization's primary focus? (Check both if applicable.)</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Adults <input type="checkbox"/> Youth
<b>Is your organization an Indian Health Service site, Tribal Health Program, or Urban Indian Health Program?</b>		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No