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# Lexington Stakeholder Meeting | Disrupting the Pathway to Violence

July 9, 2018

10 AM – 11:30 AM at the Lexington Library

- ❖ **Introduction and Familiarization with TRPHD**
  - Lexington Stakeholders were introduced to staff members of Two Rivers Public Health Department, what the department does, and which staff members are readily involved with the Disrupting the Pathway to Violence Program
- ❖ **Project Background and Basics**
  - Lexington Stakeholders were reminded about the grant and grant objectives.
- ❖ **Why Lexington?**
  - Grant application focused on utilizing public health as a partner for implementing program
  - Emphasis on piloting a model towards rural needs
    - Provide a toolkit for other rural areas on violence prevention
  - Lexington and Kearney are the population hubs within the Two Rivers jurisdiction
- ❖ **What are the project goals?**
  - Promoting awareness of signs of potential violence and reporting resources
  - Establishing a trusted reporting resource
  - Threat Assessment Teams – multidisciplinary teams to provide helpful intervention and disrupt the pathway to violence
- ❖ **What is happening with the project locally**
  - There is a structure for risk assessments and threat assessments at the school, which has seen success. General discussion on if this model could be extended to include the community.
  - Lexington Stakeholders were informed about some of the basic principles of the pathway to violence and how the process may unfold as was covered at the recent free training that was held in Lexington on July 3, 2018
- ❖ **How the process of preventing violence currently takes place in Lexington**
  - The police department is utilizing a violence prevention model in the schools with positive results
  - People are also referred to the hospital and to hotlines if they are thinking of committing violence or are victims of violence
- ❖ **Current Gaps for Preventing Violence in Lexington**
  - Juveniles cannot be addressed in the same fashion as adults and therefore do not qualify for the same services
    - DHHS and the County Attorney's office deal with issues effectively as possible from there
  - Adults can be an issue as well because if they don't meet the conditions to be placed into protective custody, assistance cannot be forced on them if they don't want the help
  - It was proposed that a safe place be established for adults to come to for assistance and to connect that would exist potentially outside of the hospital or other spaces that are marked and may be stigmatizing
  - There is a lack of tools to make interventions effective

- Where do people with limited financial resources or without health insurance go for assistance?
- How do community partners and resources best work together to serve those in need in an efficient manner when they don't necessarily meet the conditions of immediate action?
- When adults can't be closely monitored, as students are in the school system, how does the community provide them with potential help while also emphasizing violence prevention
- Minority citizens and or those who may not have citizenship will be hesitant to report, possibly largely due to the current political climate.
  - Those same citizens may come to the Lexington community with a distrust of law enforcement based on prior experiences and their background

❖ **Action Items**

- TRPHD and UNL Policy Center should coordinate training for human resource departments, clergy, and community leaders to potentially assistance those who may be on the pathway to violence
- TRPHD should issue public service announcements, brochures, pamphlets, and other advertising items to educate the public and community at large about the pathway to violence and preventing violence
- TRPHD should seek to meet the community members where they 'are' i.e. living, working, etc
- TRPHD and UNL Policy Center will be coordinating to deliver and disperse train the trainer packets on the program