



Kansas Prevention COLLABORATIVE

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES | Promotion Awareness | Education Advocacy



A message from KPC Partners:

The world is ever-changing. Let's bring with us into this new day our dependable comforts, supports, and strengths. What follows are messages from the Kansas Prevention Collaborative partners, sharing about adapted strategies during the COVID-19 pandemic and our responses to support Kansans.

"In this time of emergency response to COVID-19, KDADS continues to support the important work of prevention coalitions around the state. We encourage you to continue your missions as much as possible, and feel free to reach out to us if you need to

reallocate grant funding to adjust to school closures and stay at home orders. Thank you for the work you do to help your community!"

Andy Brown, Commissioner of Behavioral Health Services

Kansas Department for Aging & Disability Services

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From Headquarters, Inc.:

Headquarters, Inc. recognizes that many Kansans are feeling anxiety and concern over the Covid-19 pandemic and social isolation. For anyone in crisis or needing emotional support for themselves or a loved one crisis services remain open, free, and confidential 24 hours a day.

Anyone can call our direct local line at 785-841-2345; chat online at CrisisChat.org, or reach HQ through the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255.

For information on how the lifeline works, visit [HeadquartersCounselingCenter.org/learn-more/](https://headquarterscounselingcenter.org/learn-more/).

Phone Service demand is higher than normal, so we ask all callers to please be patient. Know that you are valued, and we want to talk to you. Crisis counseling is also available through the Crisis Text Line which can be reached by texting "Kansas" to 741-741 or through online chat at <https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/> and clicking "chat."

Headquarters Counseling Center is staffed by dedicated volunteer counselors who continue to volunteer their time to take calls from people across the state in crisis, in need of emotional support, or considering suicide. As an organization, we are incredibly grateful for their continued dedication during this uncertain time. As a precaution, the administrative staff are heeding the Douglas County shelter-in-place order and working remotely. The health and well-being of volunteer counselors remain top priority so they may continue helping others.

From Jane Adams with Keys for Networking:

For one residential placement, Keys is hosting and supervising Zoom and FaceTime meetings between parents and youth to make sure children and parents are connected.

We have offered to host weekly parent meetings with parents to allow them to ask questions, develop questions for staff and stay in touch with what is happening and how their children are faring as well as how they can support the program and help their children feel safe. We hope to develop this as a model other residential placements may use to encourage family connections and help children feel safe when away from home.

We are exploring ways with one of the substance abuse treatment facilities how to help their peer support specialists support parents whose children are just getting ready to start online school programming and meet the needs of students with special needs. We have developed a one page guide for parents to consider as they allow on camera work in their homes. This is currently out for review with parents on our faculty of document reviewers. We expect to distribute next week just as school programs start online in homes.

We have established a connection with the Kansas Consumer Advocacy Council to refer parents from the 15 CROs to us between the hours of 1–4. Barbara and Jane will respond to calls regarding school beginnings and how to make that work for parents. We are also offering trainings on how to thrive as a family in a closed environment with school and 24/7 kids in the mix. We have a series of modules for parents and staff available to go through them with parents.

We are working with the Youth Suicide Prevention Group to host a Youth Move virtual two day training for the youth and sponsors of STAND, One Heart, Zero Reasons Why, Yellow Ribbon, Heartland 180, and the Attorney General's Office. We have asked for help from BRSS TACS and our national organization. The purpose will be to increase interactivity between the youth in the existing youth suicide prevention programs and encourage the increased exchange of strategies and ideas, led by youth in a virtual reality. In addition, we are almost ready to release our first draft of the Parent/Youth Guide to Suicide Prevention. It will include in depth testimony with six families whose youth who have been involved in our work this year with youth suicide prevention. The parents and youth of several youth who testified at the Capitol in February will share what happened as they see it to cause such stress and then will share from their perspective what saves them — we will juxtapose this from what their parents say and how it takes a family team to go forward. We would love reviewers from this group as soon as our team gets through with it. Cannot wait to share it with you.

And finally we have set a goal for this month to speak with 100 families to check on them, see what we can do to help them, if anything. We have been successful with the state library helping us to find free internet services for families so their children can participate in the new school adventures of online learning.

From NAMI Kansas:

NAMI KS is excited about various creative strategies that our affiliates and their program leaders are putting in place to maintain support, connection, and engagement with our peers and family members.

NAMI NEKL is ahead of the curve on utilizing a webinar platform to stay in communication and provide support and services to their peers and family members. NAMI JOCO launched their first family support group via GoToMeeting this week and is exploring different strategies that will enable their peer program leaders to provide support for their peer groups as well. Additionally, NAMI JOC, JOCO MHC, and NAMI KS spoke earlier this week concerning a collaborative effort for a JOCO Warm Line.

NAMI DGCO is making Warm Calls to its members and checking in periodically. NAMI Wichita is on the brink of launching Google Hangouts as their webinar platform and is testing the platform to launch their first support group on the 3rd Tuesday of April. They are also considering the idea of using it to provide Warm Online services on the other Tuesdays. NAMI Wichita will also be in contact with COMCARE to discuss any Warm Line strategies that may be underway in Sedgwick County.

NAMI Hays is working with their group to identify a venue and strategy that will work best for their members. NAMI KS been in preliminary communications with NAMI BUCO to explore options for their members.

NAMI Kansas has moved to remote work from our homes due to Stay At Home Order in SNCO. We have forwarded our direct lines to our cellphones so that we can continue to respond to HelpLine calls and serve as a Warm Line as well. We are considered an Essential Business, so a few of us will hold some office hours as needed.

From DCCCA:

DCCCA is exploring new ways to provide training and TA virtually. We will be offering training sessions on Thursdays beginning April 2nd through June 11th from 10-11. These are available free of charge and certificates of completion will be provided to all participants. A flyer with detailed information can be accessed below.

From the Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush:

Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush is working remotely and continues to offer support and provide help with KPC coalition and district data and evaluation needs. We are working diligently to ensure the new 2020 Kansas Communities That Care (KCTC) Student Survey data will be available for community coalitions and school districts in early June. We will be reaching out to individual coalitions that may not be able to collect post implementation survey data for prevention education programs now that schools are meeting virtually. Don't hesitate to contact members of our team if you have questions or need assistance.

While the Greenbush Team moves forward with prevention support, many Greenbush school support staff have been collaborating daily to assist Kansas schools as they move to a new instructional model for the remainder of the school year. Greenbush is providing tools, resources, training, and support that schools can use to provide the most successful continuous learning environment. Areas of focus include wellness, instructional content and strategies, technology resources, student enrichment, and communication support to assist in keeping communities informed.

Greenbush is working to ensure that community coalitions and partners, schools, and students continue to receive unmatched service during this challenging time.

From the University of Kansas Center for Community Health and Development:

We appreciate the changes that everyone is making to stay sheltered in place due to the COVID-19 pandemic that we are facing in our country. We have provided and will continue to provide online supports, training, and technical assistance throughout our collaborative efforts. We want to impress upon you the advantage of using the Technical Assistance Form for assistance with the Community Check Box. Your request is shared with our team instead of a single email account, which allows us to be even more responsive to your requests as we all work remotely. We will experiment with new ways of working as teams in our home offices in Kansas and across the country.

We look forward to reviewing your accomplishments where supports are being provided to grantee communities by technical assistance partners and in communities across Kansas

as they strive to carry out their prevention mission. Our online Community Check Box Training in April will support communities to locate graphs and identify accomplishments they will use in their Kansas Prevention Collaborative Presentations in May.

From Wichita State University's Community Engagement Institute (CEI), Prevention Initiatives:

As much as our KPC services are designed to support online connection and communication, we miss getting together in the same physical space with each other and you!

We have been working with our KPC partners to adapt much of what we do to promote physical distancing for the benefit of everyone's physical health. The KPC has responded by cancelling or postponing in-person training events across Kansas, including a Substance Abuse Prevention Skills Training planned to be held in Wichita on March 23-25 with 30 registered attendees, and the April PreventionWorkS in Salina with over 40 registered to attend. Training events will be offered via online formats as much as possible in the foreseeable future.

CEI's Prevention Initiatives team has been working remotely since March 20 with daily connections through Zoom, GoToMeeting, Microsoft Teams, Google Hangouts, email, and good old-fashioned chats via text. We have continued engaging with you through social media on Facebook and Twitter, have distributed a survey engaging you in more discussion and identification of challenges about working remotely, have promoted several national awareness campaigns, and have highlighted National Drug and Alcohol Facts Week most recently.

Our KPC services have continued while adjusting and adapting to our current intentional distancing. Planning has continued to be underway for future PreventionWorkS, PreventionTalkS, and the KPC Conference coming up in October. We started KPCConnections as an online conversation on March 27, scheduled every Tuesday morning at 9am, to offer a relational contact with peers in prevention across the state. We distributed a survey to gather more information about how the KPC can support you and your community prevention efforts during this time and have begun responding to the challenges and requests reported there.

We hope you all find the KPC to be a familiar source of support and strength as we navigate uncertain times together and we look forward to seeing you again!

A Word From Our Partners At KDHE

KDHE has created a [COVID-19 Resource Center](#) to help Kansans access up-to-date guidance.

Also check out SAMHSA Disaster Distress Hotline. It is a great resource.

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