

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

American Indian/Alaska Native ZERO SUICIDE ACADEMY®

September 7-9, 2017

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Application Deadline: May 15, 2017

Sponsoring Organization: The American Indian/Alaska Native Zero Suicide Academy is sponsored by Indian Health Service.

Zero Suicide Academy Description: The Zero Suicide Academy is a two-and-a-half-day training for senior leaders of Indian/Tribal/Urban health and behavioral health care organizations that seek to dramatically reduce suicides among patients in their care. Using the Zero Suicide model, 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: Zero Suicide Faculty provide both interactive presentations, 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 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) aid in developing implementation plans for the Zero Suicide initiatives at each participating organization. The Zero Suicide Academy is presented by EDC, Inc.

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 offers an evolving online toolkit.

Zero Suicide is a comprehensive approach which includes the following dimensions:

- 1. LEAD:** 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. TRAIN:** Develop a competent, confident, and caring workforce.
- 3. IDENTIFY:** Systematically identify and assess suicide risk among people receiving care.

4. **ENGAGE:** 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. **TREAT:** Use effective, evidence-based treatments that directly target suicidality.
6. **TRANSITION:** Provide continuous contact and support, especially after acute care.
7. **IMPROVE:** 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.

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 is supported by Indian Health Service (IHS). An agency that adopts a Zero Suicide framework focuses intently on three key areas: (1) leadership commitment to ensure suicide care is the responsibility of the entire system of care; (2) assurance that all patients have an evidenced-based clinical pathway that includes identification, assessment, safety planning treatment, and follow-up; and, (3) accountability for continuous improvement based upon regular collection and review of data. Implementing all of the elements of Zero Suicide is essential and must be done in an organized, coordinated, and sustained manner.

Application: The Zero Suicide Academy™ application consists of the following items ALL of which must be submitted to be considered for selection:

1. **Cover Sheet.** A cover sheet, using the template provided. **The lead applicant must be one of the four team members and will receive all correspondence.**
2. **Bio-Sketch.** Briefly describe the members of your team and the relevant skills, knowledge, and experience they bring to the agency's Zero Suicide initiative. *(A brief 1 paragraph bio- sketch of each team member as 1–page supplement to the Cover Page)*
3. **Letter of Commitment.** A letter of commitment written by the organization's CEO or Director and Tribal Leadership/Administration, when applicable. The Director/Tribal Leadership/Administration should review and approve the submission, preapprove funding for this application such as travel and lodging to attend, and agree to the strategy proposed. **Once selected, it is expected that the**

organization will participate in the Academy.

4. **Narrative.** A narrative that, in no more than four pages (single-spaced with 12-point font), responds to the following:

- a) **Organizational Structure.** Please provide a general overview of your organization including the following: its major departments/divisions/units, the types of services provided, populations served, hours of operation, etc. **Do not exceed 1 page.**
- b) **Experience with Collaborative Models.** What successes and /or challenges have you had as a team or with other collaborative efforts (e.g. patient centered medical home, behavioral integration, and improving patient care, etc.?) **Do not exceed 1 page.**
- c) **Implementation and Sustainability Plan.** How do you plan to successfully embed and sustain comprehensive suicide care in your organization? What challenges do you anticipate you will encounter? What proposed solutions will you consider? **Do not exceed 1 page.**
- d) **Outcome Expectations.** What are your team's goals for participating in the Zero Suicide Academy and what does the team hope to learn during the training? **Do not exceed 1 page.**

5. It is highly preferred that applicants complete the online Zero Suicide Organizational Self-Study as a team prior to submitting the Application. The online Zero Suicide Organizational Self-Study can be found at <http://zerosuicide.sprc.org/what-organizational-self-study>. Any applicants who are unable to submit the Self-Study prior to Application submission will be expected to submit it prior to the start of the Academy. Zero Suicide staff will work with any sites that identify barriers to submission to ensure a culturally-appropriate solution.

Eligibility: Space is limited, therefore, it is critical that all applicants provide clear evidence of ALL the selection criteria indicated. Applicants' team composition should be total of four (4) individuals and shall include:

- Person(s) responsible and with authority for implementation decisions (e.g. Medical Doctor, CIO, ED, BH Director, or IT). Likely this person will be the identified lead for the system's Zero Suicide initiative;
- At least one senior leader/management (irrespective of discipline area);
- At least one person who manages your electronic health records (EHR) system;
- At least one person (e.g., case manager, psychologist, social worker, nurse, other) who provides direct care to patients daily.

Funding: Zero Suicide Academy materials will be provided at no charge to organizations selected to participate. **All other costs, such as travel, food and lodging, are the responsibility of the participating organizations.**

Selection Criteria: The review committee will rate applications based on their merit in responding to and providing a complete application. The review committee reserves the right to select participants who are representative of geographical and organizational diversity.

Applications will be rated using the following criteria:

- 1) **Commitment.** Letter of commitment; identified appropriate Implementation Team members to attend the Academy; **and** pre-approved funding for travel, lodging and per diem. **(25 points)**
- 2) **Readiness.** Demonstrated success of integrating collaborative models within your health system/organization; including, if possible, completion of organizational self-study. **(30 points)**
- 3) **Implementation and Sustainability Plan.** Understanding of what it will take to adopt and implement Zero Suicide framework, including anticipating challenges. **(25 points)**
- 4) **Goals.** Articulates realistic and feasible goals for attending the Academy; and how participation at the Academy will help to launch the Zero Suicide model within your organization. **(20 points)**

Deadline: All application materials must be submitted via email as a PDF file that includes: a cover sheet, letter of commitment and a maximum of four (4) pages of narrative to ckratz@edc.org by May 15, 2017 at 5:00 pm PST. Notification of application decisions and status will be provided via email by June 15, 2017.

Timeline:

- Application release date: **April 6, 2017**
- Application due: **May 15, 2017**
- Notification of application status: **June 15, 2017**
- Secure Travel by: **July 1, 2017**
- Zero Suicide Academy: **September 7-9, 2017**

Questions:

Contact Heidi Kar, EDC, at hkar@edc.org.

AI/AN Zero Suicide Academy Application Cover Sheet

Organization Name:			
Physical Address:			
City, State, Zip:			
Lead Applicant			
Name, Degree(s):			
Job Title:			
Phone Number:			
Email Address:			
Other Team Members			
Name, Degree(s):			
Job Title:			
Email Address:			
Name, Degree(s):			
Job Title:			
Email Address:			
Name, Degree(s):			
Job Title:			
Email Address:			
Type of organization (check all that apply) <input type="checkbox"/> IHS Federally-operated facility <input type="checkbox"/> Tribally-operated facility <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Indian organization	Please list other practice transformation initiatives (e.g., <i>Improving Patient Care</i>, trauma informed care, just in time scheduling, collaborative documentation, expansion of peer workforce, integrated care, etc.) that Zero Suicide activities align with that your organization is currently working on.		
Number of clients served annually by your organization:			
Number of satellite clinics, if any:			
Total number of staff employed or contracted (include both clinical and non-clinical):			
Which population is your organization's primary focus? (Check both if applicable.)			<input type="checkbox"/> Adults <input type="checkbox"/> Youth