TEXAS
Health and Human Services

Suicide Care Initiative

The **Suicide Care Initiative (SCI)** is a Mental Health Block Grant-funded project operating out of the **Texas Health and Human Services Commission Office of Mental Health Coordination**. SCI works through local mental health authorities (LMHAs) and local behavioral health authorities (LBHAs) to carry out the Zero Suicide framework with the goal of providing effective and safe suicide care.

What is Suicide Care?

Suicide care is a term that reflects the comprehensive and expansive approach to caring for people with lived experience with suicide. Suicide care includes prevention, intervention, treatment and postvention in a trauma sensitive and caring way.

What is Zero Suicide?

Zero Suicide is a framework of evidence-based best practices for system-wide transformation and commitment toward safer suicide care. The foundational belief of Zero Suicide is that suicide deaths in health and behavioral health care systems are preventable. There are seven principles of the Zero Suicide framework, which are leadership, training, screening, engagement, treatment, transitions and improvement. These principles must be carried out fully for an LMHA or LBHA to be considered a suicide safe care agency. For more information about Zero Suicide and to view the framework, visit the **Zero Suicide website** (edc.org).

Regional Suicide Care Support Centers

SCI created four Regional Suicide Care Support Centers (RSCSCs), which are LMHAs across Texas that serve as pilot sites for SCI and Zero Suicide implementation. With the grant funding, the RSCSCs oversee the development, implementation and evaluation of safe suicide care within their agency and other LMHAs and LBHAs in their region by offering technical assistance and training on suicide care best practices. The four RSCSCs are:

- The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
- Integral Care
- My Health My Resources of Tarrant County
- Tropical Texas Behavioral Health

For questions or to learn more about the Suicide Care Initiative, email **suicide.prevention@hhs.texas.gov.**

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, call or text the **Suicide and Crisis Lifeline** at **988**. Help is available.

23D0106 - HHS MSS - Nov. 2022