

RESOLUTION NO.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RATIFIED SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE CHEYENNE REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER FOR THE LARAMIE COUNTY PREVENTION GRANT (FY2025-2026), ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY, WYOMING TO REQUEST FUNDING FOR THE CORONER'S OFFICE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,000.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF: REQUESTED FUNDS WILL BE USED BY THE CORONER'S OFFICE TO PROVIDE SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCES, SUCH AS BOOKS AND JOURNALS TO THOSE THAT HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE TO SUICIDE.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center is to receive Federal Prevention pass through funds from the Wyoming Department of Health and;

WHEREAS, the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center will distribute a portion of these funds to Laramie County agencies and nonprofits for seed grants and;

WHEREAS, the Laramie County Board of Commissioners is eligible to apply for and receive Prevention Grant funds for the Coroner's Office and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Laramie County desires to participate in the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center Prevention Grant by sponsoring this application to assist in financing the Coroner's Office and;

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of Laramie County has been provided with preliminary cost estimates and information on this project and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF LARAMIE COUNTY that a grant application in the amount of \$10,000 be submitted to the Cheyenne Regional Medical Center for consideration of assistance in funding the Laramie County Coroner's Office for suicide prevention.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Sandra Bay, or her successor in the position of Laramie County Grants Manager, is appointed as agent of the Laramie County Board of Commissioners to execute and submit applications and certifications for these funds and to receive funds and implement the programs funded under this grant.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 16th DAY OF APRIL 2024.

By: _____

Date: _____

Chairman, Laramie County Commissioners

ATTEST:

Date: _____

Debra Lee, Laramie County Clerk

Received and Approved as to Form only By:



Date: 4/2/24

Laramie County Attorney's Office



2024-2026 Prevention Grant Application

Organization: Laramie County Coroner's Office

Address: 3964 Archer Parkway, Cheyenne, WY 82009

Point of Contact:

Name: Rebecca Reid

Job Title: County Coroner

Email: Rebecca.reid@laramiecountywy.gov

Number: 307-637-8000

Funding Request:

Year 1: \$5,000

Year 2: \$5,000

Total: \$10,000

Topic(s) to be Addressed:

- ☐ Adult Overconsumption of Alcohol
- ☐ Underage Alcohol and Marijuana Use
- ☐ Tobacco Prevention
- ☐ Opioid/Prescription Drug Misuse and Other Drugs
- ☒ Suicide Prevention

Evidence-Based Strategy:

- ☒ Requesting funding for EBS listed on Wyoming Department of Health (WDH) spreadsheet
- ☐ Requesting funding for Evidence-Based Strategy that is not listed (will require additional approvals from WDH)
- ☐ Other (fill in below)

Project Priorities (if applicable):

- ☒ Includes partnerships or collaborations with at least three other community agencies.
- ☐ Prioritizes groups historically deprived of resources.

Project Details:

Description:

Situation: (Briefly describe your request, define how the activities proposed will benefit the community, and describe the capacity of your organization to implement the activities.)

We are requesting funding to purchase educational materials on coping and processing suicides, to hand out to family and friends of suicide victims. The Coroner's Office, in partnership with the Greif Support Group, the Loss Team and both local victim service programs will have access to the resources for distribution to household members affected by the suicide of a loved one. These activities will directly relate to our goal of providing "care and support to individuals affected by suicide deaths and attempt to promote healing and implement community strategies to help prevent suicides." Having the appropriate reference and resource materials available on scene will help individuals immediately when they are the most vulnerable after losing a loved one to suicide. We are requesting several books for each advocate, Grief Support Group member and Loss Team member to have available to provide to families. Our department, along with the Grief Support Group, the Loss Team and the victim advocates, cover all of Laramie County and have the capacity to work and impact the entire county from Cheyenne to the smaller communities of Albin, Burns, and Pine Bluffs. We are confident that with our community partnerships we can reach all families who experience the loss of a loved one to suicide, and provide outreach efforts to prevent future suicides.

Background: (Detail the causes, conditions, or needs that have led to this request. Describe how the activities proposed will enhance community well-being.)

Unfortunately, high suicide rates and the lingering effects are not new to Laramie County. The State of Wyoming has been both first and second in the nation on the prevalence of suicide deaths, ranging 24-33 deaths per 100,000 deaths. Our agencies have seen high suicide rates in the community and the long lasting affects those deaths have on the families and communities as a whole. Statistics and research show that people with a family history of completed suicides, as compared with those without such history, are at a 2.1 fold increased risk of dying by suicide. Our agencies currently carry folders that have printed materials such as brochures, but this limited information is not always enough for a grieving family. Thanks to previous prevention grants, community benefit grants and local support, we have been able to carry resource books for those in need since 2019 and quickly go through our supplies. We believe that this shows the importance and need for resources such as this in our community to prevent suicides. The requested funding would be to purchase resource materials, such as books and journals, for

families and friends to utilize. These materials would be accessible by the victim advocates, Grief Support Group members, and Loss Team members, at all times. In simply having materials immediately available, we are providing a quick response to those at risk for suicidal thoughts or actions. This request is to enhance the available resources for grieving families in Laramie County to prevent additional suicides.

Analysis: (Provide data illustrating the need and describe the evidence-based strategies that have been selected for implementation. Describe the service area for implementation (i.e. Laramie County, Cheyenne, Pine Bluffs, etc.)

This project originally began in 2019, and we do know by the reaction of those receiving books and resources that it is well received and needed. We have attached a little overview showing these statistics. For the period of 2019-2024 (to date), we show that 126 individuals died by suicide in Laramie County and of those, 379 of their families and friends received resources from us. These resources received were books and materials for dealing with such a loss (some members received multiple resources). By helping those surviving family members and educating them with knowledge and coping skills, may help to stop the continuation of suicide in that family. It should also be noted that resources were provided to other family members who experienced a loss other than suicide and needed resources. Those individuals that are receiving books and resources have the option to either keep or return the resources for use by others. We have community members that have also donated books and resources to the Coroner's Office.

Our implementation area will be all of Laramie County to include the smaller jurisdictions and the unincorporated county. Our resources are also made available to outside agencies such as FE Warren and the National Guard. Suicide is a societal component that cannot be predicted, but we do know that family members of a suicide victim are at an increased risk for suicide themselves. "Having a family history, like any other risk factors, indicates that a person is at an increased risk in comparison to people without such exposure; it cannot predict if the person is destined to attempt or complete suicide" (The Relationship of Suicide Risk to Family History of Suicide and Psychiatric Disorders). The Laramie County Coroner, Rebecca Reid, has been tracking suicide rates here in our community based on age, gender, and method since 2013. Our project will be to establish effective comprehensive support programs for individuals bereaved by suicide, and promote the full implementation of those guidelines within the community.

Budget: (Provide a detailed budget to describe how funding will be allocated in year 1 and year 2)
(Money not spent in year 1 will be reallocated and put towards year 2)

Our proposal addresses the absence of a supportive environment as a risk factor to suicides by providing community support after a loss.

We are requesting a total of \$10,000 for our five agencies to share resources (Coroner's Office, Grief Support Group, the Loss Team, Laramie County Victim Services and the City of Cheyenne Victim Services) over the two-year period. We are also requesting light blue, two pocket folders to continue to print off materials to be carried by advocates, team members, deputies, officers, and the coroner's office. The books and resource materials that we are requesting include but are not limited to: Healing a Grandparents Grieving Heart, Understanding your Suicide, The Understanding Your Suicide Grief Journal, Healing After the Loss of your Mother, It's Ok that you are not Ok, I wasn't ready to say Goodbye, Progressing through Grief, Surviving the Loss of a Sibling, Surviving the Loss of a Spouse, My Grief Journey Coloring Books kids, Grieving Dads, Surviving the Loss of a Parent. It is our goal to have a variety of resources available for all suicidal classifications (loss of spouse, sibling, parent, friend etc.)

Books range in price from \$9.56 to \$18.74 each without shipping expenses. We are estimating spending \$10,000 on books and folders. This funding will allow the purchase of anywhere from 300-350 books and journals. With the 2021/2022 grant, we purchased around 355 books and journals and with \$4,919.89. At the time of this application, we have given out the majority of these resources within the community.

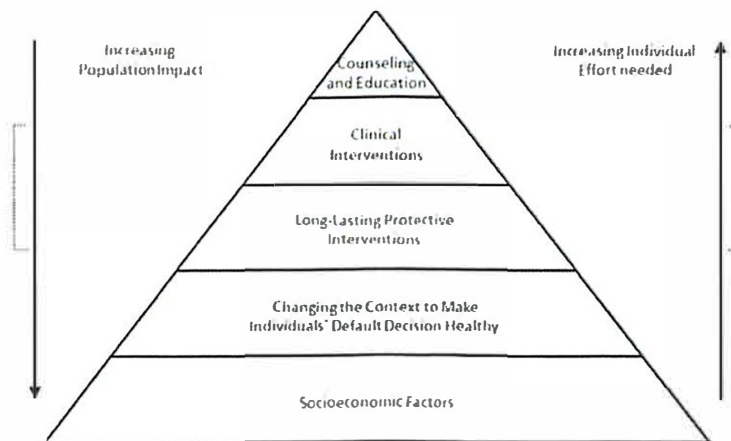
The requested funding would be used over the two-year period to purchase materials and provide them to the community in response to county suicides and other losses. Each suicide is said to intimately effect at least six to one hundred and thirty-five other people. This ranges from intimate friends and family and expands to coworkers, and community members (Suicide Research Consortium).

Evaluation:

Our strategy is easy to evaluate. We will keep track of how many resources we hand out to families on our calls to suicides; all parties will collect this data in a spreadsheet for use. Extra materials will be held at the Laramie County Coroner's Office to be picked up by the Victim Service agencies, Loss Team, and the Grief Support Group or other requesting agency. We will also make notations on additional requests and the most popular materials that are requested. It is our hope and goal to provide immediate support to families and friends who have lost a loved one to suicide to prevent additional suicides within the community. We are basing our need off studies that demonstrate a significantly higher risk for suicidal behavior among family members. By providing readily available information, we are hoping to reduce the numbers of suicides in our community.

The utilization of the requested resources will be the driving force behind recognizing the need in the community. It is our goal to reduce suicides and provide resources to families and friends in need who have lost a loved one, through providing support to promote healing.

Health Impact Pyramid



Frieden TR. Am J Public Health 2010;100(4):590-5

Please select the level from the Health Impact Pyramid:

- ☒ Counseling and Education (i.e. Dietary counseling, education to avoid drinking and driving, etc.)
- ☐ Clinical Interventions (i.e. Treatment of hypertension, medication-assisted treatment, etc.)
- ☐ Long-Lasting Protective Interventions (i.e. Tobacco cessation programs, brief behavioral counseling to reduce alcohol consumption, etc.)
- ☐ Changing the Context to Make Individuals' Default Decision Healthy (i.e. smoke-free laws, tobacco or alcohol taxes, etc.)
- ☒ Socioeconomic Factors (i.e. Early childhood education, improved housing options, etc.)

I understand that as a recipient of these funds, I will be required to actively participate in Laramie County Community Action Teams and follow reporting requirements.

Rebecca RO

Signature

4-1-2024

Date

Laramie County Suicide Statistics

Year	Total Suicides	GSW	Asphyxiation by ligature	Drug Toxicity	Asphyxiation by Oxygen Displacement	Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	Other	Male	Female	# Resources Provided to families/friends
2019	24	18	2	2	1	1	0	23	1	55
2020	28	21	3	2	1	1	0	21	7	49
2021	24	20	2	1	1	0	1	19	5	22
2022	26	21	2	0	1	1	1	24	2	91
2023	20	14	3	3	0	0	0	16	4	124
2024 to date	4	3	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	38
TOTALS	126	97	12	8	4	3	3	107	19	379