

# VRIS UPDATE

## **Policy On Suicide Intervention Effective 4-16-09 Number 214**

### **SUMMARY OF UPDATES**

The Policy on Suicide Intervention was reviewed by some mental health professions who suggested the following additions.

1. It is important to specifically ask the individual if he or she is thinking about suicide. This is not a time to dance around the issue.
2. A listing of suicide hotlines has been added. The help lines can be a resource for an individual who may be displaying warning signs, but is not at the point of needing a 911 intervention.

In addition, the Policy on Suicide Intervention has been added as training topic with new staff on the First Week Training form.

### **VRIS POSTING**

The [Suicide Intervention Policy](#) is now available on the VRIS Home Page as a Quick Link. It can also be found in Program Manual: Policy: Suicide Intervention Policy.

The [Voc. Rehab Emergency Office Procedures for Suicide Risks form](#) is now available on the VRIS Home Page as a Quick Link. It can also be found in Materials: Printed/Marketing Materials: Case Service Forms & Worksheets: Suicide Call Form.

The First Week Training form is posted at VRIS: Staff Training: Modules/Tools/Portfolio: First Week Training form.

### **FORMS REVISED**

The Voc. Rehab Emergency Office Procedures for Suicide Risks form, used when dealing a caller expressing suicidal thoughts or warning signs, has been revised to include the step of directly asking the caller if he or she is thinking about suicide.

### **TEAM COMMUNICATION**

Review the policy and form at a team meeting including a discussion if someone within the team has had the experience of intervening with someone displaying suicidal warning signs.

Consider listening as a team or individually to an NPR program on Suicide: Prevention and Intervention.

<http://www.capradio.org/programs/insight/default.aspx?showid=576>

Consider inviting someone from your regional behavioral health program or other mental health resource to a team meeting to present on Suicide Prevention and Intervention.

### **LEADERSHIP CONTACT**

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