

Performance Note HB0346 - Suicide Prevention Programs

Sponsor: Rep. Eliason, Steve



Performance Note Report

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Agency: Department of Health

Funding For:

New Services or Benefit

Public Benefit:

Purpose: For the Office of the Medical Examiner (OME), the purpose of this funding is to support a psychological autopsy examiner to gather data regarding suicide and drug overdose deaths, and make that data available to the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry and other partners to increase understanding about the preventable factors that contribute to suicide and drug overdose.

Services: Specific to the OME, services consist of conducting "psychological autopsies" to compile data regarding suicide and drug overdose-related deaths, including gathering psychological information from relatives of the deceased as they are willing to contribute. Data will be gathered in a database that will be accessible to key partners, such as the University of Utah Department of Psychiatry. This bill also requires that the OME release preliminary data about a death each month after the medical examiner receives a deceased body.

Expected Outcome: Specific to the OME, it is expected that the addition of a psychological autopsy examiner will increase information about and understanding of the factors associated with suicide and drug overdose deaths. Such information will help practitioners tailor and target efforts to help prevent suicide and drug overdose deaths.

Implementations and Resources: Specific to the OME, this bill will be implemented by hiring a licensed clinical social worker to complete psychological autopsy examinations. Additionally, the Utah Medical Examiner Database will be updated to capture data collected from psychological autopsies. Another Forensic Pathologist is needed to provide the OME capacity needed to meet the preliminary data reporting requirement each month after the medical examiner receives a deceased body.

How: The proposed activities will result in collection of data that will increase information about and understanding of factors associated with suicide and drug overdose deaths, and make that data available to practitioners focused on preventing such deaths.

Performance Measures

Goal

Title: Database

Description: Create database to document information collected on the factors related to suicide and drug overdose-related deaths.

Collection Method: Utah Medical Examiner Database updated to collect psychological autopsy exam data.

	2017	2018	2019
Database created	0.00	1.00	1.00
0	0.00	0.00	0.00

Goal

Title: Psychological Autopsy Examinations

Description: Psychological Autopsy Examinations are completed on deaths that suicide or drug overdose related

Collection Method: Percent of relevant deaths that receive a psychological autopsy

	2017	2018	2019
100 percent of relevant deaths	0.00	75.00	100.00
0	0.00	0.00	0.00

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