

## IV: Narrative Plan

### J. Suicide Prevention

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Narrative Question:

In September of 2010, U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and Defense Secretary Robert Gates launched the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. Among the initial priority considerations for the newly formed Action Alliance is updating and advancing the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, developing approaches to constructively engage and educate the public, and examining ways to target high-risk populations. SAMHSA is encouraged by the number of States that have developed and implemented plans and strategies that address suicide. However, many States have either not developed this plan or have not updated their plan to reflect populations that may be most at risk of suicide including America's service men and women -- Active Duty, National Guard, Reserve, Veterans -- and their families. As an attachment to the Block Grant application(s), please provide the most recent copy of your State's suicide prevention plan. If your State does not have a suicide prevention plan or if it has not been updated in the past three years please describe when your State will create or update your plan.

**Footnotes:**

## **J. Suicide Prevention**

The Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Program has been a long standing program in Maine and it receives support through the Director of Children's Behavioral Health Services and the CBHS' Medical Director's active participation in the MYSSP Clinical and Professional Committee. CBHS partners with MYSSP to promote effective clinical and professional practices and to improve access to mental health, substance abuse and crisis services.

The Maine Youth Suicide Prevention Plan is comprised of 10 goals modeled on the National Strategy. It represents the thoughts and input of over 100 stakeholder and was released in September 2008. In the Attachment section of this application there is a copy of the current plan.

## **Office of Adult Mental Health Services**

The Department of Health and Human Services, Maine Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Maine Injury Prevention Program, Plan for the Prevention of Suicide among Adults is currently in DRAFT phase and not yet ready for public comment. The anticipated date for the final plan is December 2011. Please refer to the attachment, "Plan for the Prevention of Suicide among Adults".