**Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission**

**Drafted mins**

**4/15/2024**

**Microsoft Teams meeting (connection details below)**

**1100-1200**

**In attendance:** Emma H, Trevor W, Cindy L, Michael S, Emily W, Ashley H, Bill Elwell, Loretta S, Mourning Fox, Emily L, Lance B, Stephanie B

* Welcome new members and guests
  + New Members: Emily Leinoff (Newport police)- welcomed
  + Knowles Wentworth from HCRS (Healthcare and rehabilitation services in southern VT) – not in attendance
* Current member list
  + Reviewed current list of members.
* Member updates
  + Cindy: DOC peer support, recruitment (8 new members), increasing contacts, suicide education (staff), working on team policy (moving beyond guidance),
    - (possible to get MAT teams (special teams) guidance?, issue: supervisors acting a peer supporters)…
      * MAT team focuses on training, and “who to call” membership, when activated, training … “directive”
  + Ashley E911: VT therapy dogs to call takers (hopeful for dispatch); Week: PSTW is this week (National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week)
  + Mark, Emily and Trevor: **July 15-16th Conference Castleton**—
    - date and location set (July 15-16th Conference Castleton)
    - Trying to lock in keynotes both days (workshops, wellness activities); similar format to last year
    - Seeking donations to reduce cost—seeking presenting sponsor?
    - **Save the date Flyer being finalized**-- will be coming out soon
* Upcoming Conferences and Trainings
  + Healthcare Preparedness and EMS conference June 12-16- several mental health topics on Saturday
  + Postvention training April/ May, and at June Conference (flyer attached)
* Legislative proposals and report
  + Brainstorm ideas
  + Timeline
* 2024 meeting schedule (people agreed to the meeting)
  + 5/20 11-12
  + 6/17 11-12
  + 7/8 **11-1230** (finalize any proposals)
  + 8/19 11-12
  + 9/16 **11-1230** (report review and voting)
  + 10/21 11-12
  + 11/11 11-12
  + 12/ 9 11-12
* Any other 2024 priorities updates- not discussed

Next meeting agenda items (as identified) – none identified

**Below is a list of the planned focus areas for the commission as outlined in the report.**

As we discussed at the last few meetings, we want to make some measure progress on these areas. We discussed developing working groups who can work on these projects between meeting and the groups can report back to the larger commission for input, feedback, and voting on final documents.

The 2023 report has been published: [Emergency Service Provider Wellness Commission Report (vermont.gov)](https://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Legislative-Reports/ESP-Wellness-Legislative-Report.pdf)

**Planned Commission Activities 2024-2025**

* Develop a Mental Health and Wellbeing Training Plan for Providers, Organizations, and Clinicians
  + Develop a plan that focuses on core competencies that all emergency  service leaders and providers need regarding stress injury awareness and prevention.
  + Develop a “stress injury prevention and awareness” training model
* Convene an Emergency Services Provider Mental Health Conference
* Explore Centralized Platforms for Emergency Services Providers to Access Technology-Based Resources (mental health apps, or other tech)
* Develop ESP Family Resources to Reduce Occupational Stressors and Secondary Trauma
* Determine qualifications and experience for “Qualified Clinicians”
* Develop a list of programs offering the care continuum of care for ESP’s including intensive outpatient programs, partial hospitalization programs, residential care, and inpatient treatment
* Assess the Presumption law and State Workers’ Compensation Laws for sectors included, and what it covers, other related laws
* Expand Peer Supports