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DMHAS PREVENTION STAFF JOINS SUICIDE PREVENTION RESOURCE CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

Andrea Iger Duarte was recently invited to join the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) Steering Committee that will prepare a Strategic Plan for the SPRC. SPRC is a congressionally mandated; federally funded Center managed through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and is operated by the Education Development Center, Inc. in Newton, MA. The SPRC, established in 2002, supports suicide prevention with the best of science, skills and practice to advance the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention (NSSP). SPRC provides prevention support, training, and resource materials to strengthen suicide prevention networks and is the first federally funded center of its kind. SPRC fulfills Objective 4.8 of the NSSP, which calls for the development of "one or more training and technical resource centers to build capacity for States and communities to implement and evaluate suicide prevention programs." The SPRC Steering Committee members include 12 out of the 36 Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act of 2004 grantees, Mrs. Duarte included, and a representative from the National Institute of Mental Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Veterans Administration, each of the SAMHSA Centers (Substance Abuse Prevention, Substance Abuse Treatment, and Mental Health), and staff from the SPRC.