AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

Agenda Item: Ratification of Correspondence; Office of Suicide

Action Requested:

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:

Please see attached letter for ratification

Fiscal Impact:

Submitted by: Josh Ost **Submitter's Email Address:** jost@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reveiwed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required

Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reveiwed by: GUNCOUNTY1\mbirnie Discharge Date: 3/15/2017

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted: 0

Agenda Date: 3/21/2017

Revised April 2015

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

March 14, 2017

Office of Suicide Prevention RFA#5538
Violence and Injury Prevention
Prevention Services Division
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

To Whom It May Concern,

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners would like to express our strong support for the Department of Health and Human Services' application to the Office of Suicide Prevention. Gunnison County experienced a series of community losses including three teens in 2014 and 10 adult suicides in 2016. In response to the teen losses the Community Crisis Coalition was formed in the spring of 2015. The Community Crisis Coalition is composed of 25 community members representing multiple sectors of the county. The first year this coalition functioned without leadership. For 2016 two individuals volunteered to serve as Chair and Co-Chair in an effort to coordinate the group which is made of very committed and enthusiastic members. But strategic structure is lacking. The DHHS proposal would provide dedicated staff time to serve as Coordinator of this already existing coalition that has a robust membership that includes school, hospital, law enforcement, mental health, health & human services, school district, higher education, judicial system and community members.

As a frontier county with nearly 16,000 residents, Gunnison County has had a long-standing practice of collaboration. In recent years the county undertook a comprehensive assessment entitled "One Valley Prosperity Project". This effort involved extensive community input to determine overall wellbeing and vision for Gunnison County and has now moved to the next stage of planning and implementation. The Community Crisis Coalition will serve under the One Valley Prosperity subgroup, Health and Wellness, and report directly to Gunnison County Health and Human Services.

As the BOCC, we recognize the importance of suicide prevention and have recently held a work session specifically on suicide data and activities, as well as adding suicide prevention to the BOCC Strategic Business Plan.

Thank you for this opportunity to develop a coordinated local effort to prevent suicide in our county.

Sincerely,

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson | Jonathan Houck, Commissioner | John Messner, Commissioner

200 East Virginia Avenue • Gunnison, CO 81230