

# **POPULATION HEALTH PROPOSAL: PART 2**

Community and Systems Level Intervention to Reduce  
Depression and Suicide Risk Among Young Adults With  
Serious Mental Illness in Sedgwick County, Kansas

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# POPULATION DEFINITION

- Young adults aged 18 to 25 with serious mental illness in Sedgwick County, Kansas, including bipolar disorder, major depressive disorder, or schizoaffective disorder (Sedgwick County Health Department, 2022).

# HEALTH PROBLEM OVERVIEW

- High levels of depression and suicide risk among young adults with serious mental illness. Kansas suicide mortality rising faster than national trends. Nearly half report suicidal thoughts annually (KDHE, 2023; SAMHSA, 2023).

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## EVIDENCE BASED INTERVENTIONS



Gatekeeper training programs



Enhanced crisis response



Care coordination models



Community stigma reduction  
campaigns



Policy interventions for post  
hospitalization follow up

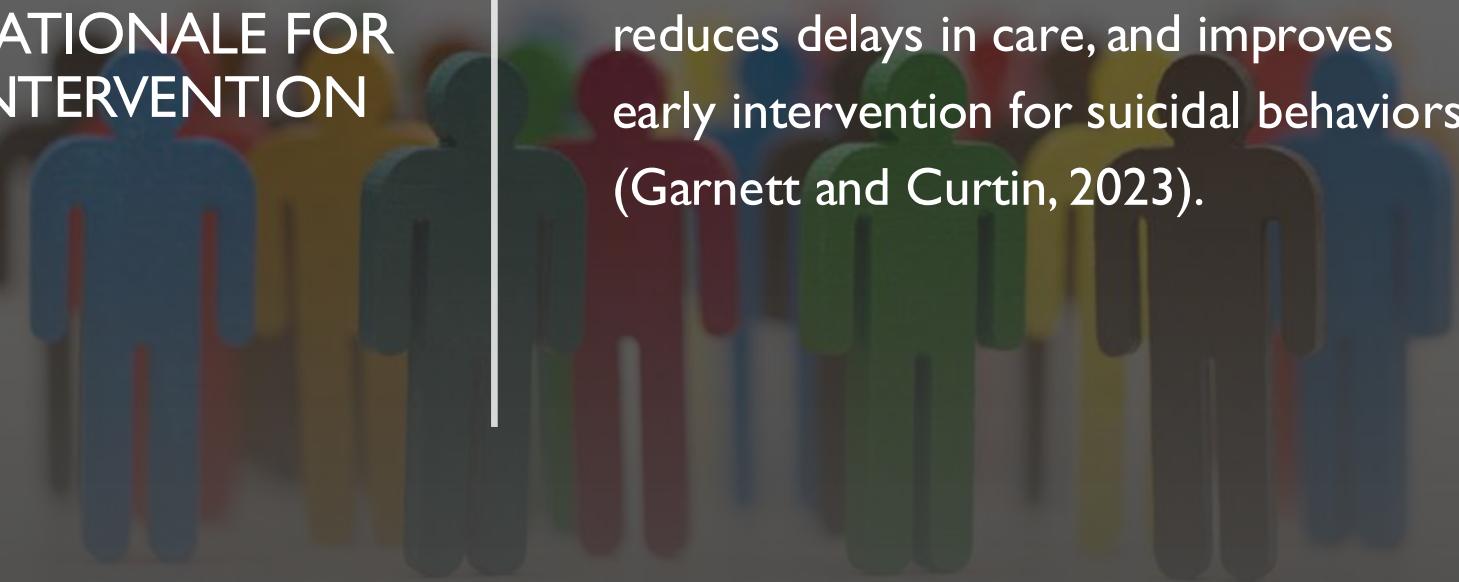


(Garnett and Curtin, 2023; Mojtabai  
et al., 2021; SAMHSA, 2023)

## SELECTED INTERVENTION

- Community Gatekeeper Training Initiative using QPR and MHFA to increase early detection, risk recognition, and referral to crisis services.

## RATIONALE FOR INTERVENTION



- Addresses community awareness gaps, reduces delays in care, and improves early intervention for suicidal behaviors (Garnett and Curtin, 2023).

# IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

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1

Partner with CMHCs, colleges, shelters, youth organizations

2

Provide QPR and MHFA trainings monthly

3

Offer in person and virtual sessions

4

Integrate referral pathways with crisis units and mobile crisis teams

5

Monitor participation, referrals, and outcomes

## ANTICIPATED EFFECTS

- Earlier detection of risk
- Increased crisis service referrals
- Reduced ED visits
- Lower suicide attempts
- Improved community mental health literacy (SAMHSA, 2023)

# REFERENCES

- Garnett, M. F., & Curtin, S. C. (2023). Suicide mortality...  
<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/databriefs/db464.pdf>
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<https://www.sedgwickcounty.org/media/69013/wichita-sedgwick-needs-assessment-final.pdf>
- SAMHSA NSDUH Report:  
<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2022-nsduh-annual-national-report>
- County Health Rankings:  
<https://www.countyhealthrankings.org>