

So much has happened this past Quarter – Oregon is still experiencing COVID-19 and the restrictions it brings, protests continue about social and racial injustices, wildfires have spread across Oregon and the Pacific Northwest, and yet we are rising to meet these challenges and Annette and Jenn have been so impressed by the unflagging commitment from Alliance members, affiliates and partners to end youth suicide. Alliance has accomplished and progressed on many important areas of Suicide Prevention. Below is a snapshot of activities since June. Thank you all for your dedication to help this happen.

### Membership Orientation

The Alliance welcomed 19 new voting members this August. Our group has grown tremendously over the past year in both affiliates and voting members and we are so excited to see the work that we will be able to accomplish together.

To help welcome new members, Alliance Staff hosted three New Member Orientations, attended by 22 Members, in addition to the regular Quarterly Membership Orientation which have been very well attended. Orientation Materials, including the operations manual, were emailed to all voting members. It is a pleasure to see the high interests in our work and invite folks to join our efforts. Additional Orientation sessions will be scheduled in October. Both new and returning members are welcome to join.

### Monthly Webinars

A key goal of our Communication Plan is to develop regional communication hubs around the state as a way to share information and to unify the suicide prevention and intervention field through a network of coalitions. Our primary outreach has been through a series of webinars facilitated by Alliance Staff with presentations from organizational partners like the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention and Regional Suicide Prevention Coalitions. Our past Webinars have covered topics like updates from Lines for Life on Youthline and Rapid Response, Suicide Prevention Media Campaigns in Jackson County, and Safe Messaging. Webinars have been well attended by a variety of folks from Suicide Prevention Regional Coalitions, schools, non-profits, and more.

### [Alliance Website](#)

If you haven't had a chance to take a look at the redesigned website, please check it out! Some pages are still under construction but there is lots of good information and new [materials](#) have been added including meeting agendas, materials and minutes. Thanks, Jenn, for all your work on this project – the website was transferred from UO to the Alliance June 2020.

### LGBTQ+ Mini-Grants

Alliance staff assisted with the LGBTQ+ mini-grant application and scoring process of 81 different applications from across Oregon. OHA provided \$215,000 towards organizations in Oregon that are providing resources to the LGBTQ+ Community in Oregon. It was amazing to see the wonderful and innovative work being done in communities throughout Oregon. AOCMHP Staff and CONNECT Postvention Lead Kris Bifulco stepped in to manage this process. Up to 18 organizations will receive funds from OHA and the elected grantees are soon to be announced by OHA.

### Policy Advocacy

Alliance Staff and members have met with some Representative Keny-Guyer, Representative Salinas, Representative Roblan, and Senator Gelser to prepare for the upcoming Legislative Session by discussing legislation that the Alliance will be putting forward. The Alliance is on track to submit a Legislative Concept related to Behavioral Health CEUs. Representative Salinas has agreed to sponsor this piece of legislation. Please go [here](#) for an overview of The Alliance Policy Agenda for the 2021 Legislative Session.