



Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program: Implementation Roadmap

About the Implementation Roadmap

This document is meant to clearly lay out how the White Mountain Apache Tribe (WMAT) Celebrating Life Team can support a team's implementation of the Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program. It is intended to be used by teams who are considering implementing the suicide prevention program in their community. It will provide a better understanding of the implementation process, key steps along the way, and questions to consider throughout. It also illustrates the respective roles and responsibilities of those participating in adaptation and implementation.

This document can be used to help teams prepare any materials needed before contacting the WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Team to set up an initial meeting. The questions listed under Step 1 will guide that initial conversation, and the WMAT Celebrating Life Team will review responses and justification to each of these questions. This will help the Celebrating Life Team best understand where a community is starting on their implementation process.

Please note that movement through the following steps is community led. The WMAT Celebrating Life Team provides support and program resources. However, the implementing team will be responsible for initiating each step and building the program to meet their unique needs. This may entail significant work between steps depending on the community's readiness and current work.

Step 1: Initial interest meeting with WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program Team

Goal

Consider where your team is coming from, including your current situation and context and potential goals for a suicide prevention program.

Before meeting with WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program Team

Your team should consider the following questions prior to meeting virtually and be prepared to speak about them in detail:

- How much do you already know about the WMAT Celebrating Life model? Have you read about it, attended a presentation, had prior contact with WMAT/Johns Hopkins staff?
- How much of a concern is suicide in your community?
 - Is your community currently in a crisis related to suicide?
- Describe if and how your Tribal leadership believes this issue is a concern or a priority that needs to be addressed?
 - When was the last conversation you had with your Tribal leadership about this?



- Identify who among the leadership is involved in these conversations. What agencies, departments, or organizations outside of your own are working on this issue?
- What is the frequency of the changeover within your Tribal leadership?
- What is currently happening in the community around suicide prevention?
- What is your team currently looking for regarding a suicide prevention program?

Details

Virtual meeting. Your team should request follow-up meetings as necessary.

After meeting with WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program Team

Please follow up to request additional meetings or ask additional questions as needed.

Step 2: Building buy-in within your community

Goal

Hold community meetings and discussions around suicide prevention in your community with stakeholders and WMAT Celebrating Life Staff. Encourage conversations about suicide prevention efforts, reasons for the work, and reasons you want to adapt Celebrating Life in your community.

Before community meetings with WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program Team

- Your team needs to have had initial conversations with community stakeholders about suicide prevention efforts and ensure that they are open to and interested in joining an in-person meeting with your team and WMAT Celebrating Life Staff.
 - Please identify the stakeholders outside of your own team or organization who are interested in collaborating on and supporting this work.
- Your team should be able to communicate what your initial goals are for implementing the Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program in your community.
 - Please note that WMAT Celebrating Life Staff are willing to support long-term suicide prevention work and programming. If this is not where your team's interest is, we may not be able to provide additional implementation support.

Details

In-person meetings are to be held in your community. Our team has found building buy-in to be most successful when Tribal leadership/stakeholders are able to have a focused meeting together when there is already interest in moving forward with implementation. These stakeholders should include leaders from across the Tribe because the program relies on buy-in from many different agencies. Grassroots community support is important as well and can be used to initiate movement from leaders.



If you do not have robust stakeholder initiative at the start of your technical assistance with WMAT Celebrating Life Staff, then this step may take a longer time to complete. This step is imperative to moving the adaptation of Celebrating Life forward and should not be rushed. We are happy to provide additional resources and overviews of the Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program for you to share with Tribal leadership/stakeholders.

The WMAT Celebrating Life Staff can travel based on their schedules and your team's ability to cover transportation, lodging, and meals.

After meeting with the WMAT Celebrating Life Team

Your team should understand your answers to the following questions:

- What does it mean to adapt this program to your community?
- What are the next steps for you? Who needs to do what to move forward?
- Who will house and staff this program in your community?
- What programs already exist and how will your program collaborate with these programs?
- Will your Tribe move forward with a mandate or resolution to support mandated reporting?

Step 3: Building your community's program

Goal

Build the team and infrastructure to support your community's Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program, including through hiring and training case managers.

Before trainings provided by WMAT Celebrating Life Staff

There are several important steps to successfully set up your program before beginning to train your case managers. It is important to consider how you will set up your program, including how to sustain your program and work effectively within the context of your community. Some of these steps include:

- Secure funding, either through Tribal leadership, grant application, or other means.
- Understand what electronic data collection and management system you will use to store data and what, if any, training you will need to use this system.
- Finalize and seek approval for any resolutions/policy needed to support your program.
- Understand how your organization will work together with others in your community.
 - Note: Collaboration with schools, hospitals/clinics, treatment centers, police, EMS, fire departments, and grassroots/family members is encouraged to support program success.



- Hire your case managers, supervisors, data managers, and other necessary staff.
- Consider ways to get the community involved and engaged in your program.
- Create/update community resource guides based on the resources in your community (i.e., mental health providers, Traditional Healers, etc.).
 - Note: Your team should identify who provides crisis services in your community for referral, as the Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program is not intended to be a crisis or 24/7 response program.
- Create a training checklist that makes sense for your community and team.
- Understand how much support will be needed from WMAT Celebrating Life Staff in training.

Details

Training is to be held in person in your community. Our team is prepared to explain the program to hired staff who will be working as case managers and supervisors in your community and provide training according to the training checklist your community has put together.

The WMAT Celebrating Life Staff can travel based on their schedules and your team's ability to cover transportation, lodging, and meals.

After meeting with WMAT Celebrating Life Staff

At this point, your team is ready to begin implementation of Celebrating Life. The WMAT Celebrating Life Team will be ready to support with emerging questions and relevant implementation resources.

Step 4: Ongoing program support

Goal

Create systems for ongoing program implementation with as-needed support from WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program staff.

Details

The WMAT Celebrating Life Suicide Prevention Program team has time blocked off for “office hours” each month. If you would like time with the team, please reach out via email to reserve this time for your program.

Your team should be creating ongoing systems for staff and program support. The WMAT Celebrating Life team is happy to share the model for how we continually check in with staff and support well-being. We are also able to discuss options for ongoing technical assistance as needed for your community.

