Program Summary:

The Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health has promoted a comprehensive approach to suicide prevention and mental health promotion, as shown in the graphic below. The approach is adapted from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, The JED Foundation’s Model and other relevant evidence-based models aimed at university/college student retention.

These models also promote Crisis Intervention Teams and addressing substance use disorders. Zero Suicide is a more recent evidence-based approach to reducing suicide. Zero suicide is an aspirational goal for a healthcare system that promotes continuity of care. Together, these two models provide the foundation for the work of the Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health. The three aspects of our programming are:

1. Collaborative Program Development Grants
2. Technical Assistance
3. Training in evidence-based practice
Collaborative Program Development Grants\(^1\):

We have funded over eighty Collaborative Program Development Grants (CPDG) over the life of the program. These mini-grants incentivize community-campus partnership and support a variety of activities on campus, including gatekeeper training, depression screening and general mental health awareness programs. In addition, grantees are encouraged to demonstrate a collaborative relationship between one or more colleges, universities, technical schools, and/or community colleges within their area and local community entity to leverage public health expertise and support to implement effective evidence-based programming. To date we have awarded mini-grants totaling over $305,000 to support programming on 81 campuses including:

- Twenty-eight Community Colleges
- Twenty-nine State Universities and Regional Campuses
- Twenty-four Private Colleges

Training:

The Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health (OPCSMH) sponsors trainings on a variety of topics of interest to the campus community. We have held regional trainings on Behavioral Intervention Teams, Violence Prevention and Best Practices in Postvention at several locations across the state. Statewide conferences in November 2012, May 2014, May 2017, and May 2019 have featured or will feature national experts in the field of campus mental health. Webinars addressed safe messaging in suicide prevention, the Crisis Text Line, the Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health and Programming for Suicide Prevention on Campus. Other sponsored trainings of interest include:

- Gatekeeper training
- Assessment and clinical management of the suicidal client
- Addressing suicidal behaviors in veterans on campus: Strategies for assessment, crisis intervention and treatment
- Collegiate Recovery Communities
- Military culture and outreach to veterans
- Kognito’s evidence-based on-line gatekeeper program: At Risk for Faculty and Staff.

Technical Assistance:

All 81 Collaborative Program Development Grantees have received on-campus technical assistance addressing program implementation, safe messaging and evaluation. Other campuses have sought out OPCSMH staff for assistance with grant writing, postvention activities and mental health awareness activities. OPCSMH staff have met with both Provosts and Student Affairs leaders from all state-sponsored institutions of higher education to promote the comprehensive approach to mental health.

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\(^1\) Funding for Collaborative Development Program Development Grantees commenced in 2008 and represents figures over the life of the program. CPDG figures also represent multi-year eligibility and funding for grantees.