

Department of Public Health QPR Training Announced

The MDPH Suicide Prevention Program is supporting the National Organization for People of Color Against Suicide's Pre-conference QPR Gatekeeper Instructor Training by subsidizing 25 of the 40 participant slots. Participants will learn how to make a 60-90 minute QPR Presentation to community members.

The training will take place as part of the **NOPCAS Conference - Affirming Life-Suicide Prevention and Intervention Among People of Color** - on February 25, 2010 at the Hotel Marlowe, 25 Edwin H. Land Boulevard, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

8:30 - 5: 00 PM - All-day Gatekeeper Instructor Training for middle and high school counselors - Donna Holland Barnes, PhD, Howard University, Washington, DC

This training is to help develop a program for the inner-city schools that allows faculty and staff to become knowledgeable in detecting early recognition of warning signs when a student is in suicidal/homicidal crisis. The sooner warning signs are detected and help sought, the better the outcome of a suicide crisis will be. By implementing a program entitled QPR (Question, Persuade, and Refer), faculty and staff can become empowered and confident in managing students in crisis. The QPR program was developed by Paul Quinnett, PhD, president and founder of The QPR Institute, located in Spokane, Washington. The QPR Institute is a multidisciplinary training organization whose primary goal is to provide suicide prevention educational services and materials to professionals and the general public. They offer state-of-the-art programs to institutions that want to increase their standard of care and reduce the suicide/and or acts of violence rate. One of their programs is the Gatekeeper Instructor Training program, a program that trains key personnel within the school systems who engage with the students long enough to be able to detect imminent risk.

To register for the training, as a guest of the **MDPH Suicide Prevention Program**, contact Brandy Brooks at the MDPH Suicide Prevention Program - Brandy.Brooks@state.ma.us

There is **NO FEE** for this training but attendance at the conference on February 26 and 27 is encouraged. Go to the NOPCAS website to see the conference agenda and registration.

**To learn about the conference look under "Upcoming Events" on the left side margin on the NOPCAS website: www.nopcas.org.
Deadline for Registration is February 18, 2010**

About the Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention

The Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention's mission is to support and develop effective suicide prevention initiatives by providing leadership and advocacy, promoting collaborations among organizations, developing and recommending policy and promoting research and development.

Next MCSP General Membership Meeting - Monday March 8, 2010

Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention

www.masspreventssuicide.org

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