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Suicide Prevention Walk, September 2019
ABOUT SOFR:

The purpose of the Suicide and Drug Overdose Fatality Review (SOFR) is to review and share information about both suicide and unintentional drug overdose deaths to gain a better understanding of the circumstances surrounding these deaths.

The objective of the SOFR is to identify possible trends and develop local recommendations based on information collected through the SOFR process to prevent future suicide and drug overdose deaths.

The SOFR team meets quarterly, either virtually or in-person. Current SOFR membership includes:

- Bucyrus City Fire/EMS
- Crawford County Coroner’s Office
- Crawford County Prosecutor’s Office
- Crawford County Public Health
- Crawford County Sheriff
- Crawford-Marion ADAMH Board
- Marion-Crawford Prevention Programs
- Wise Funeral Home

Sources of data include Death Certificates, Coroner/Medical Examiner Reports, Toxicology Reports, Police/Sheriff Reports, Obituaries, News, Social Media, Court Records, Medical Records, Mental Health Records and other treatment information, and EMS Reports.

HIPAA regulations prevent access to or exchange of some protected health information. All SOFR participants are required to maintain confidentiality of information obtained throughout the process. Obtaining autopsy and toxicology reports from deaths that occur out of county is often difficult.
In 2022, the total number of Crawford County resident suicide ideations/attempts reported was 388 with 7 suicide deaths (6 males and 1 female).

Five of the decedents lived within the 44820 (Bucyrus area) zip code and two from 44833 (Galion area).

Ages of decedents ranged from 31 to 68 years. The average age of decedent was 49 years.

There were at least 3 children under the age of 18 years that lost a parent to suicide during 2022.

Home or a friend/family member's home was identified as the most frequent location of the overdose (5 instances) with the remaining cases occurring outdoors.

Three of the deaths were caused by gunshot wounds, three were deaths by hanging and one was an intentional overdose of prescription medications.

The highest education level obtained for any of decedents was a high school diploma or GED for 5 of the cases with one having attended 9th through 12th grade but not a diploma and one listed as unknown for education.

One of the decedents was a veteran.

Four of the decedents had history with law enforcement.

Four of the seven decedents had known history of previous suicide ideation/attempt in which first responders were called.

Four of the seven decedents had been involved with known previous mental health treatment.

Two of the decedents had made preparations prior to death.

Two of the decedents had been involved in a known crisis at time of death - both financial.
2022 Suicide Ideations & Deaths per Month

Total # Suicide Ideations/Attempts per Month

Overdose Deaths per Month

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2022</th>
<th>Ideations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>26</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>26</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<td>May</td>
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<td>October</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Data was extracted from EpiCenter surveillance system that classified the chief complaint in real-time. This surveillance data captured Crawford County residents that presented to an ER or Urgent Care Center anywhere in Ohio.

Mortality data is provided by the Ohio Department of Health from the Ohio Public Health Data Warehouse. The Department of Health specifically disclaims responsibility for any analyses, interpretations or conclusions.
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2022 SUICIDE IDEATIONS/ATTEMPTS SUMMARY

Males: 187  
Females: 201  
Overall Minimum Age: 6  
Overall Maximum Age: 88  
Overall Average Age: 28

Zip Code:  
44820: 176  
44833: 143  
44827: 53  
44854: 12  
44887: 4  
44881: 1

By Age Group (years)
RESIDENCY & MARITAL STATUS OF SUICIDE DEATHS

44820 (Bucyrus Zip Code)
- Married: 5
- Divorced: 2
- Never Married: 2

44833 (Galion Zip Code)
- Married: 2
- Divorced: 2
- Never Married: 3

LOCATION OF SUICIDE DEATH

- Home: 4
- Friend's Home: 1
- Outdoors: 2

TIME OF DEATH & AGE RANGES OF DECEDENTS

- Between 12pm - 6pm: 42.9% (3)
- Between 6am - 12pm: 28.6% (2)
- Between 6pm - 9pm: 28.6% (2)
- 40-49 yrs: 40.9% (2)
- 30-39 yrs: 30.6% (2)
- 50-59 yrs: 21.2% (1)
- 60-69 yrs: 21.2% (2)
Five of the decedents had graduated high school or held a GED. One of the decedents had attended high school but did not have a diploma. One of the decedents had an unknown education. Studies have long shown that higher levels of education strongly correlate with an overall increase in health.
Gallia County had the highest suicide death rate at 26.8 deaths per 100,000 population, followed by Paulding and Jackson County (25.5 and 24.8 deaths per 100,000 population, respectively).
(Source: Ohio Department of Health, Jan. 2022)
Suicide prevention is an important component of any community. Suicide death is preventable. Connecting to needed mental health treatment and supports are necessary to reduce suicide ideations and deaths.

NOTED TRENDS
Upon reviewing the 2022 unintentional suicide deaths, the SOFR team noted the following:
- Two of the cases were involved in a financial crisis at time of death.
- Four of the seven cases (57%) indicated the individual had been referred to treatment previously.
- Home or a friend’s home was the most common location listed as place of death (5 out of 7).
- Four of the seven cases had information indicating they had a history of self-harm.
- Three of the deaths were by gunshot wound, three were by hanging and one was an intentional overdose of prescription medications.
- Four of the cases had a criminal history.
- One of the seven decedents was a Veteran.
- None of the decedents had an education beyond high school.
- The number of female ideations is higher than the males, but the completion rate is much higher for males.
NEXT STEPS

RECOMMENDATIONS
The SOFR team discussed the following recommendations for the Crawford County community:

• **Explore more options for grief counseling** that can be provided at a variety of different times/days.

• **Continue providing the Handle With Care** training with schools and law enforcement that interact with those that have experienced trauma.

• **Increase the QPR trainings** to help employers recognize the signs someone is struggling and empower friends/family members to engage conversations.

• **Reduce stigma** towards getting mental health treatment and increase messaging on treatment options available.

• **Promote 988** through a variety of outlets and ensure community partners are sharing the 988 info as well.

CONSIDERATIONS

The Healthy People 2030 target for the United States is to reduce the suicide death rate from 14.1 deaths per 100,000 population to 12.8 per 100,000 population. Ohio’s suicide death rate is currently 15.0 and Crawford County is 17.0 deaths per 100,000 populations. (County Health Rankings, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, 2023)
WHO CAN HELP PREVENT SUICIDE?

- Friends/family members
- Local community leaders
- Faith-based organizations
- Employers
- School staff
- Coaches
- Mental Health providers
- Social services agencies
- Anyone! You!

Help us bring suicide prevention conversations and services to your neighborhood.

CRAWFORD COUNTY SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION

Visit the Crawford County Suicide Prevention Coalition Facebook page for local meeting information and updates. Or call (419)562-7288 to learn more on how you can get involved.

Other Resources:
- Pathways of Central Ohio 800-544-1601
- Contact Crawford County 419-562-9010 or 419-468-9081
- Crisis Text Line text 4HOPE to 741741