

## 3/21/2022 HNJ 2030 Injury & Violence Subcommittee

### Attendees:

- **Tracy Nerney**, BS, MMBA, RN, Trauma Injury Prevention Coordinator, Jersey Shore University Medical Center
- **Laura Cerutti**, Project Manager, TransOptions
- **Kate O'Connor**, Public Education Coordinator- Brain Injury Alliance of NJ
- **Rob Clawson**, Manager of Life Support Training and Program Director for EMT Training Program, Hackensack Meridian Health (Corporate)
- **Tim Seplaki**, New Jersey Department of Health Office of EMS, attending on behalf of Bretta [Timothy.Seplaki@doh.nj.gov](mailto:Timothy.Seplaki@doh.nj.gov) -
- **Anna Ryan**, Hackensack Meridian Health, Paramedic and Course Coordinator for EMT program at Jersey Shore University Medical Center

### General:

- Members approved March 8th, 2022 meeting minutes
- New member introductions: Rob Clawson, Tim Seplaki, Anna Ryan
  - Tracy reviewed Healthy NJ 2030 Action Team process to new members
- Tracy provided clarification from the HNJ chairperson meeting. Our subcommittee under the Healthy Living Action team is to focus on individual needs to prevent injury and violence
- Tracy suggested team develops two shareable documents:
  - Lists each members area of expertise, title, agency, and contact information - Laura will manage this document
  - Organize data sources - Kate O'Connor volunteered to manage this document
- Reviewed data as topic of discussion from March 8th meeting. Group agreed on long-term goal of improved data collection, collaboration, and utilization

### Topic Areas:

- Topic of March 21st meeting was focused on discussing each members' top concerns in injury and violence
  - Laura:
    - Speeding - cultural acceptability of speeding, increased crash severity with increased vehicle speeds
    - Pedestrian and bicycle crashes - concern of increase in vulnerable road user injury and fatality
    - Roadway design - Need for improved, self-enforcing roadways that influence safe behaviors and protect users
    - Equity - Disproportionate impacts of vulnerable road user injury in fatality in low income and communities of color.
  - Rob:
    - Pedestrian crashes
    - Crashes and injuries involving dirt bikes and water craft
    - Child injury prevention

- Elder abuse - neglect and lack of services for elderly population
- Tim:
  - Safe operation of emergency vehicles - improper use of lights and sirens, needs for EMS to be belted and secure equipment in emergency vehicles
  - EMS for children and child passengers in emergency vehicles
    - § Mentioned that there is no national standard for emergency transport of children
  - Opioid epidemic and substance use disorder in connection with mental health and mental health services
  - Mental health and wellness of first responders
- Anna:
  - Assaults and gang violence
    - § Discussed how domestic violence increases in summer months
    - § Increased need for situational awareness and education of the public
  - Education on mental health and need for resources
  - Socioeconomic environments that contribute to injury, violence, and mental health
  - First responder mental health
    - § Discussed top three concerns with EMTs are substance abuse, suicide, and PTSD
    - § Need for cultural change amongst EMTs for mental health and wellness
  - Child injury prevention - including falls, safety in the home (babyproofing), education on safety needs for specific age groups such as choking, vehicle safety, outdoor play
- Tracy:
  - Motor vehicle crashes, pedestrians
  - Domestic violence
    - § Mentioned concerns during COVID with people being sheltered with abusers
    - § Need for improved recognition, response, intervention, and public awareness
  - Falls
    - § Improvement of how we house seniors - discussed how other nations have better outcomes and systems
  - Supporting the "sandwich" generation - those who are taking care of elderly and children at the same time leading to burden and poor health outcomes
- Kate:
  - Introduced focusing on Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) for the group
  - TBI has an impact on most group members' topic areas and areas of expertise
  - Lack of resources and communication at hospital for TBI patients and their families.

- Tracy mentioned concept of "Tiger Ideas" - where we recognize that we cannot completely eliminate and issues, but we can make progress and improve health outcomes if we can reduce concern by a small percentage
- Groups discussed changing culture, such as changing culture for helmet use and educating kids and parents
- Need for increased education on injury and violence prevention
  - Anna mentioned utilizing team of educators to educate EMS squads in field who can educate local communities
- Continued discussion on overdose and substance use
  - Tracy provided update from chairperson meeting. The Behavioral Health subcommittee will be making overdose and mental health their main focus
  - There may be opportunities to connect with Behavior Health group on this topic
  - Notes from meetings across action teams will be posted on Teams. We are able to review this discussions, if needed

**Next Steps:**

- Review list of top concerns from each group member and develop list
- Consider how we can impact TBI and how it relates to each members' topic areas
- Members who were unable to attend March 21st meeting can send list of their top concerns and goals for injury and violence prevention

**Laura Cerutti, MPH**  
Project Manager | TransOptions