

CHAPTER 166

AN ACT concerning youth suicide prevention and supplementing Title 30 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.30:9A-29 Statewide youth suicide prevention plan; development, adoption.

1. a. The Commissioner of Children and Families, in consultation with the Department of Human Services, and the New Jersey Youth Suicide Prevention Advisory Council established pursuant to section 4 of P.L.2003, c.214 (C.30:9A-25), shall develop and adopt a Statewide youth suicide prevention plan no later than 180 days after the effective date of this act.

b. The plan shall address, but not be limited to, the:

(1) identification of existing State and local sources of data concerning youth suicide deaths, youth suicide attempts, and self-inflicted injuries by youth;

(2) coordination and sharing of such data among identified State and local sources;

(3) promotion of greater public awareness about youth suicide prevention services and resources;

(4) identification of barriers to accessing mental health and substance abuse services, and opportunities to enhance access; and

(5) promotion of evidenced-based and best practice programs, listed on the Suicide Prevention Resource Center's Best Practices Registry, for the prevention and treatment of youth suicide and self-injury.

C.30:9A-30 Preparation of report.

2. The Commissioners of Human Services and Children and Families, in consultation with the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services, shall prepare a report reviewing the effectiveness and sufficiency of services provided by the New Jersey-based suicide prevention hotlines. The report prepared pursuant to this section shall be transmitted to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), no later than 12 months after the effective date of this act.

C.30:9A-31 Review of grant application procedures; applications.

3. a. The Commissioner of Children and Families shall review the Department of Children and Families grant application procedures to ensure that grant applications submitted by the department for youth suicide prevention initiatives are completed accurately and in a timely manner.

b. The commissioner shall give thorough consideration to and, where appropriate, apply for any grants from the federal government, and contributions and donations from other public or private sources as may be used for the purposes of this act.

C.30:9A-32 Report to Governor, Legislature.

4. The commissioner, within 18 months after the effective date of this act, shall report to the Governor, and to the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-19.1), on the implementation of the provisions of this act, and shall include the youth suicide prevention plan developed pursuant to this act, and the commissioner's findings and actions taken to implement the provisions of section 3 of this act.

C.30:9A-33 Rules, regulations.

5. The commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of the “Administrative Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall promulgate such rules and regulations as are necessary to effectuate the purposes of this act.

6. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 5, 2012.