

2019 Rocky Mountain Research Training Institute: Research to Practice for Suicide Prevention

Wednesday, June 19 – Friday, June 21, 2019

Denver, Colorado

Letter of Interest Due: November 16, 2018 (optional, non-binding)

Application Deadline: January 11, 2019 at 5:00pm MT*

The Research Training Institute (RTI) is a 2 ½ day series of interactive workshops, presentations, mentoring and small group sessions that will take place at the Anschutz Medical Campus in Aurora, Colorado. The objectives of the RTI are to:

- Encourage data-driven, evidence-based community practice with rigorous evaluation, with the goal of preventing suicide in the Rocky Mountain region;
- Create collaborative, sustainable partnerships between practitioners and researchers/evaluators so that the perspectives, knowledge, and skills of each inform the work of the other;
- Provide both violence and injury prevention professionals and evaluators/researchers with a shared body of knowledge and skills in suicidology, public health and prevention, and relevant evaluation methodologies;
- Develop plans for a local project related to suicide prevention that can be evaluated and, ideally, documented for replication in other communities.

Eligibility: Individuals working in the eight Rocky Mountain states (Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, or Arizona) or North and South Dakota may apply. Applicants should form teams of two people which include, at a minimum:

- **Practice:** One state or community professional in suicide prevention (which may include upstream community programs e.g., Sources of Strength, Veteran outreach etc.)
- **Evaluation:** One researcher, analyst, or other professional doing evaluation of suicide prevention.

The individuals may be from the same organization and will share leadership responsibilities for the project. The entire team is expected to attend and participate in the RTI. Funding to support travel, food, and lodging costs may be available for these two team members. Interested applicants without a community or evaluation/research partner are encouraged to contact RTI organizers for assistance in developing a team.

Application: If you are interested, please submit a brief, non-binding Letter of Interest by November 16, 2018, here: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/FMfcgxvzLDqndbRTvDcGQRNMcqvhQwpm>. We will send additional application information and details by email. Final application materials will be due by January 11, 2019, 5:00 p.m. MST. Applicants will be notified of acceptance in February 2019.

For information or questions, contact James Gallanos, Colorado National Coordinator for the Rocky Mountain RTI at james.gallanos@state.co.us



FAQs

1. Who is organizing and funding the RTI?

The RTI will be hosted by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Office of Suicide Prevention and the Colorado National Collaborative (CNC). The CNC is a partnership of scientists and public health professionals working with health and social service agencies, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, businesses, academic organizations, and Colorado residents to identify, promote and implement successful state- and community-based strategies for suicide prevention in Colorado. Funding is provided by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) in support of this year's RTI.

2. Have there been similar RTIs in the past?

Yes, there have been similar RTIs in the past hosted by the Injury Control Research Center for Suicide Prevention (ICRC-S), which is a collaboration between the Center for the Study and Prevention of Suicide at the University of Rochester Medical Center (URMC) and the Center for the Study and Prevention of Injury, Violence and Suicide at Education Development Center. The ICRC-S is funded by the CDC and is dedicated to the study of public health approaches to suicide prevention. ICRC-S faculty are key leaders in the CNC and will be participating in the Rocky Mountain RTI in 2019. To learn more about the ICRC-S, please visit <http://suicideprevention-icrc-s.org/>.

3. How will teams be selected for the RTI?

All applications will be reviewed by RTI faculty and affiliated experts. Selection criteria include: commitment to collaboration among team members; the team's commitment to a public health approach to suicide prevention; commitment to involving communities in decision-making about potential projects; the team's ability to successfully implement a future project; the potential sustainability of the team and/or potential projects' impacts; and, geographic distribution across eligible states.

4. How will my team benefit from participating in the RTI?

During the RTI, we will provide information relevant to data-driven, evidence-based community practices for suicide prevention. Your team will learn how to develop or refine a project proposal, then design and evaluate it. We will also emphasize team building through interactions with faculty and by sharing ideas and feedback with other teams. A mix of presentations, large and small group interactions, and individual team mentorship will reinforce these objectives. There will also be some down time to facilitate networking.

5. Our research/evaluation partner is not located in our state. Is that an issue for our application?

Location doesn't matter; just remember that collaboration is a critical part of your application so you'll want to describe your process for ongoing communication and how this work will advance suicide prevention efforts in the Western United States.

6. How much does the RTI cost?

Funding is available for up to two people per team to cover travel and lodging, as well as food, for up to twelve teams. To accept federal grant support for attendance, applicants must be U.S. citizens or green card holders. If you have any questions about your team's eligibility, please contact James Gallanos at james.gallanos@state.co.us. Space permitting and with the approval of the RTI organizers, additional team members may attend the RTI at their own expense.

7. I am interested but I don't have a partner – can you help?

Absolutely. Contact James Gallanos (james.gallanos@state.co.us) for help getting matched with a practitioner or evaluator.