



*Building and Maintaining  
an Effective Community Coalition  
For Suicide Prevention*

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# Why This Matters in Michigan

- **Someone dies by suicide every 6 hours in Michigan**
- **2nd leading cause of death for ages 10–14 and 15–34**
- **Suicide rate increased 28% (2009–2019)**

*Citations: MDHHS 2024–2027; CDC WISQARS*



# Evidence for Coalitions

- **SPRC: Multi-sector approaches are most effective**
- **SAMHSA: Coalitions reduce duplication and increase reach**
- **Coordinated states see stronger outcomes**

*Citations: SPRC, SAMHSA, MDHHS 2024–2027*



# Michigan's Challenge: Fragmentation

- **Many dedicated organizations, but historically fragmented system**
- **Uneven access across counties, especially rural/underserved areas**
- **No dedicated statewide suicide prevention budget line**
- **Reliance on discrete federal program funding**





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VOICE

# MASP & WOV Alignment

- **MASP legacy preserved**
- **Shared resources, strategy, and voice**
- **Transition strengthens statewide reach**



# WOV Next Phase

## Board & Partner Engagement

- Diverse board (~20 members) meets monthly

Represents nonprofits, schools, health systems, and corporations

## Strategic Planning & Capacity

- March 5, 2026: Strategic planning session with **Gryphon Place**
- In alignment with MDHHS Suicide Prevention Plan, SPRC, and SAMHSA guidance

## Relaunch Quarterly Webinars (Launch April 2026)

- Relaunch April 2026, free in 2026
- 90 minutes: April, July, October, January

## Website Re-Launch (Goal: April 2026)

- Central hub: training directory, resource submissions, statewide connections

## Membership Model (Jan. 2027)

- Access to webinars, training directory, and resources
- Builds sustainability, engagement, and statewide connection
- *Goal:* 100+ organizations (nonprofits, schools, health systems, corporations)

» Michigan leads the country in suicide prevention

» Consistent and sustainable funding streams in the State of Michigan for suicide prevention

» All 83 counties are represented in an active suicide prevention strategic plan and coalition

» 30% of Michigan workplaces, K-12, higher ed, and faith institutions are **WOV** members

» Membership is representative of all diverse stakeholder groups



# How Coalitions Can Save Lives

- Coalitions don't just meet: They **move systems**
- Shared learning accelerates adoption of evidence-based practices
- Coordinated efforts expand reach and reduce duplication
- Unified voices strengthen policy influence and funding advocacy





# Measuring What Matters

- **Suicide deaths, attempts, and crisis trends**
- **Strength and reach of coalition engagement**
- **Access to and use of prevention resources**
- **Progress toward policy and systems change**



*Citations: SPRC; MDHHS*

**One Voice. One Michigan.  
One Future with Hope.**



**Stay Connected:** Contact Kasie Kaufman at [pickartkasie@gmail.com](mailto:pickartkasie@gmail.com)

**Learn more:** [wovmichigan.org](http://wovmichigan.org) | **2021 Strategic Plan:** [View Here](#)

***Together, we can make Michigan a safer and healthier place for all.***

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