

Community Suicide Prevention Community Meeting Minutes

Date: March 5, 2026

Format: Hybrid (Zoom and In person)

Location: Zoom / In person (Eastern Idaho Public Health)

Attendees

Zoom: Andrea Hamilton; Liz Behrend; Tina Ricks; Megan Peck (nursing student); Tara Parsons (Butte County Coroner)

In person: Rick Croft; Brandi Daw; Tina Wheatley; Russ Wheatley; Susan Carter (Salvation Army and Chaplains of Idaho); Kendra (CYA); Ronda (SPARK and CYA); Sara Colson (D93); Ken Marlowe (D93); Lisa Elkins; Timalee Geisler; Robertta Matulis (VA); Matthew Queen

Guests / Speakers: Robertta Matulis, Veteran's Outreach and Community Support

Absent/Excused: Bonny Jennings, Brandie Weaver, Christine Adams, Jan Eastman, Melissa Schrade, RaeAnne Buerstatte, Senia Canales

Absent/Unexcused: Jimmy Roberts, Sara White, Ashley Jo

Meeting Purpose

Purpose: Community updates and veteran outreach presentation.

Presentation Summary Speaker Robertta Matulis Veteran's Outreach and Community Support

- **Background:** Robertta is a veteran and is married to a veteran.
- **Materials:** Slides will be attached to these minutes.
- **Key points:**
 - **Reintegration challenges vary.** Assimilating back into civilian life can be more or less difficult depending on individual circumstances and years served.
 - **Financial stability and experience.** Longer service can bring greater financial stability and familiarity with resources; younger veterans may lack awareness of available supports.

- **Early career disruption.** Robertta shared that an injury ended her military career early, illustrating how service-related injuries can complicate reintegration.
- **Community role.** Community leaders recognizing and prioritizing assimilation needs can improve outcomes for veterans.

Slides and brochure attached.

Next meeting is April 2 at Noon at Eastern Idaho Public Health. The Chaplains of Idaho will be speaking.