## New form submission

## YSPTF Testimony Form

Submitted on 10 October 2018, via IP 184.105.252.131 by Anonymous

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Full Name	Joe Kordalski
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Website URL	https://www.jocogov.org/dept/mental-health/education- outreach/suicide-prevention/johnson-county-suicide-prevention- coalition
Meeting at which you wish to testify:	Oct. 18, Olathe
What hurdles have you experienced and/or lessons learned through your efforts?	Over the course of my time with the Coalition I've learned that the efforts to impact a community regarding awareness and education around mental health and suicide takes just that, the entire community. We have worked very hard to overcome the stigma attached to talking about suicide and educate the community at large on how to support those in crisis. We have learned as a Coalition that it takes active participation and engagement to foster and grow our ability to have an impact within Johnson Co.and beyond.
What efforts have proven to be successful in your purpose to address youth suicide?	The Coalition has hosted numerous events targeting school support staff (Social Workers, Counselors, Psychologists, SRO, Administration) that focus on ways we can learn more about who is at risk, how to intervene and provide appropriate referral to address the family's needs. We have also hosted a number of community wide events that work to generate dialogue around mental health and education about suicide's impact on families/communities.
Recommendations or suggestions for the task force to consider:	Please continue to engage the community and stakeholders who are accessing services as a means of bettering what is there. Please consider the expertise of the Coalition's members when developing future programming, the dissemination of information and making additional connections
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