MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
INTERDISCIPLINARY SEMINAR SERIES

Presents:

SPEAKER (S): Brandon J. Johnson, M.H.S.
State Coordinator, Suicide and Violence Prevention

TOPIC: "Suicide and Violence Prevention: Using Data to Save Lives."

DATE: March 10, 2016       TIME: 3:45 P.M.
PLACE: Traveler’s Auditorium (125 Dixon Research Center)

ABSTRACT: Suicide is a major public health problem in the United States. Despite remaining below the National rate, suicide numbers are increasing in Maryland. Homicides are also increasing in Maryland at a high rate, especially among youth. The Behavioral Health Administration is working on a few initiatives to battle the violent trends in Maryland, using a new data system, Maryland Violent Death Reporting System (MDVRS), to analyze and inform best practices and targeted interventions. Data has been analyzed to recognize trends and to identify high-risk populations and areas in the state.

BIOGRAPHY: Brandon J. Johnson works at the Behavioral Health Administration on various suicide and violence prevention efforts. He oversees the Maryland Crisis Hotline, is the lead staff person on the Governor’s Commission on Suicide Prevention, as well as the Grant Manager for the MD-SPIN SAMHSA suicide prevention grant. Brandon also serves as the DHMH representative on the MD Human Trafficking Task Force. He graduated from Morgan State University in 2008 with a Bachelor’s in Psychology and received a Master’s degree in Health Science from Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health in 2012. He also earned a Graduate Certificate in Health Education from Johns Hopkins. Brandon is currently working on obtaining a Doctorate in Public Health (DrPH) degree at Morgan State University.

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