

Ohio Program for Campus Safety and Mental Health

FY25 Campus-Community Collaborative Grants (CCG)

Grantee Summary

Youngstown State University (YSU)

The purpose of these grants is to promote collaboration between college/university and community partners to develop programming to prevent suicide, promote mental health and reduce stigma about mental illness or its treatment on campus.

Project Overview

The Campus-Community Collaborative Grant supported mental health promotion, suicide prevention, and stigma reduction initiatives on the campus of Youngstown State University (YSU). The focus was to enhance programming efforts through a strategic partnership between Meridian Healthcare, YSU Student Counseling Services, and Campus Recreation.

Program Objectives

Youngstown State University (YSU), in partnership with Meridian Healthcare and YSU Student Counseling Services, hosted a comprehensive Suicide Prevention Event including workshops, panel discussions, and interactive sessions led by experts, peer mentors, and community advocates, in April 2025.

Meridian Healthcare, in collaboration with YSU, expanded the Bolster YSU for Recovery program and host at least two mental health promotion events on campus by June 30, 2025.

Outcomes

The key initiative included a campus-wide Suicide Prevention Event which culminated in over sixty students attending. Upon arriving, students were asked to complete a questionnaire regarding their own mental health. The student was then paired with a mental health professional to talk about the results. For a pilot program, YSU considers this event a success and the funding secured through FY25 was instrumental in obtaining the appropriate materials, space reservation and giveaways needed.

Additional Data

This event was not a one-time effort—it was the foundation of an ongoing campus-wide commitment to suicide prevention. Beginning with this initiative, YSU will offer at least one suicide prevention program each semester, ensuring that students are regularly reminded that they are not alone and that help is always available.

Key Partner(s)

Meridian Healthcare
YSU Student Counseling Services
YSU Campus Recreation

Challenges/Barriers

Despite efforts to create a welcoming environment, some students were hesitant to participate due to lingering stigma around mental health.