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### ROUNDUP

#### **Partners launch LOSS for suicide survivors**

Phillip Titterington, executive director of the Medina County Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Board, has announced the implementation of the Medina County Local Outreach of Suicide Survivor (LOSS) Team in partnership with Alternative Paths.

The LOSS Team is the latest addition to ongoing suicide-prevention efforts in Medina County. The ADAMH board and Alternative Paths collaborate with multiple community partners on the Medina County Coalition for Suicide Prevention. The LOSS Team will provide crisis response outreach when a death by suicide occurs in Medina County.

Law enforcement will dispatch the team to respond and provide support to loved ones in the immediate hours after they have lost someone to suicide. The team will provide ongoing supportive contacts in the weeks and months following, to ensure survivors can access needed resources to work through the grieving process and attend to mental health needs.

The objectives of the team are to establish a human connection in a nonintrusive, compassionate manner at a time when survivors are overwhelmed, to provide physical and emotional comfort, to offer practical assistance in addressing immediate needs and to connect survivors as soon as possible to supportive resources.

To date, Medina County is one of fewer than 20 counties in Ohio to offer this service. The team is an ADAMH board-funded initiative that will be managed through Alternative Paths, an ADAMH board-funded provider.

To learn more about the LOSS Team and suicide prevention, visit [alternativepaths.com](http://alternativepaths.com). Additional local resource information can be found at [medinamentalhealth.com](http://medinamentalhealth.com). If you are in need of immediate support, contact the 24/7 Crisis and Behavioral Health Helpline at (330) 725-9195.