In January Sandra Black and Anara Guard launched a project to work with the Tahoe Truckee Suicide Prevention Coalition to develop a Community Response Plan After Suicide that is specific for that region. A community survey was developed and implemented to gather input from a broad range of professional stakeholders in Placer and Nevada counties to inform development of the Plan. Results were shared with the core team of leads in Tahoe Truckee and will be shared more broadly during the April 5th meeting of the Coalition. During this meeting, we will also share our findings and recommendations for content areas for the Tahoe Truckee Plan. These are based on the survey, our work with the region so far, and research we have conducted into best practices and response plans developed for specific systems (e.g. Schools, military) and/or applicable resources developed in other states. Additional stakeholders and decision makers will also be present at the April 5th meeting, and input will be gathered from them to further work on the Tahoe Truckee Plan.

In April we will also begin work on the second phase of this project, which is to develop guidelines for rural counties to use in developing their own community response plan after suicide. These guidelines will build upon the specific information and process we are using in our work with Tahoe Truckee, but will be broad enough to be applicable for use in other rural areas. We will be reaching out to other Central Region counties for input and feedback on drafts through April and May.

Theresa Ly, MPH
California Mental Health Services Authority, Program Manager