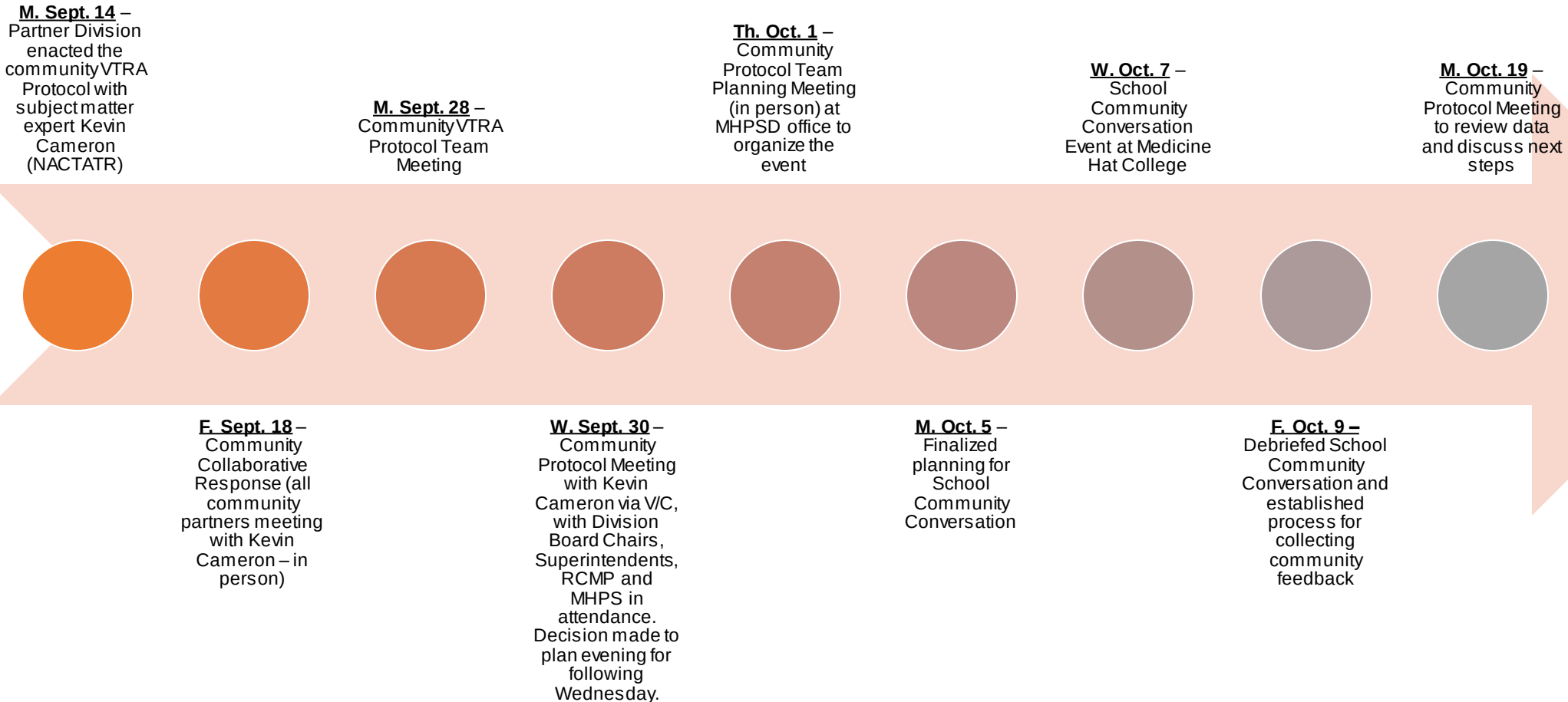




Connecting with School Communities about Suicide: Hope and Resilience in Southeast Alberta



Timeline:



Community Partners

CAPE School

Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education

Medicine Hat College

Medicine Hat Public School Division

Medicine Hat Police Service

Prairie Rose School Division

Redcliff RCMP

Southeast Alberta Child & Family Services





Connecting with School Communities about Suicide: Hope and Resilience in Southeast Alberta



614 Responses

549 plan to attend

60 might attend

5 will not attend

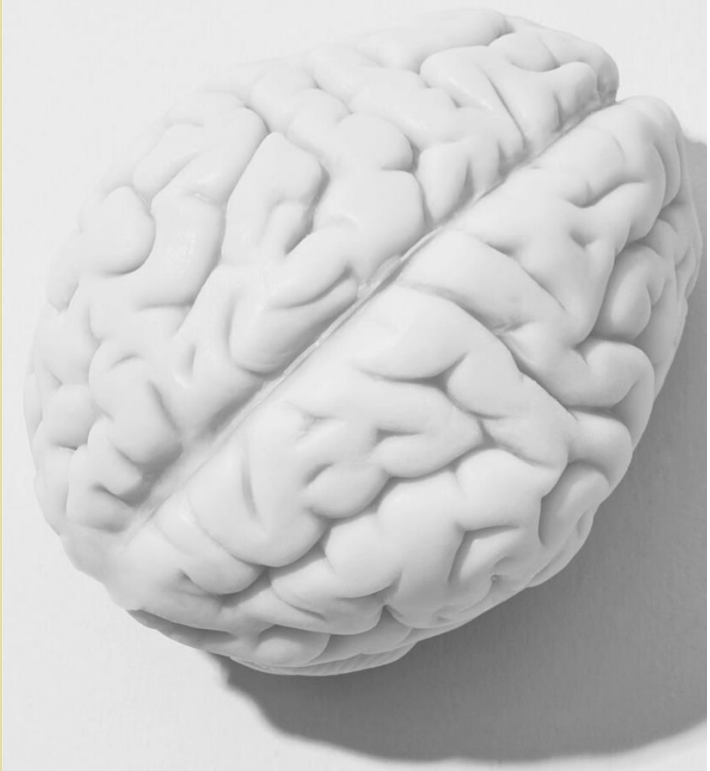
of those, **289** responses were
from our MHPSDfamily

**461 (76%)
personally
affected by
suicide**

*32% didn't feel like they
had the necessary tools
and supports to assist
with suicide, grief, loss
and mental health
conversations with family*

**85 individuals asked
questions prior to the
presentation**

generating the following themes...





Themes:

1. Concerns related to pandemic/school-closures and reopening.
2. When are my child's struggles serious enough to warrant the need for more help?
3. What are schools doing to address mental health and how do students access supports?
4. What community supports are available and how to access them?
5. How to have open conversations about suicide with your child/youth.
6. How do I help someone who isn't ready for help?
7. Understanding the grief process.
8. Impact of social media on children/youth.
9. Building resilience in our children/youth.

267 VIRTUAL LIVE ATTENDEES

Respondents (110)

51% MHPSD

27% MHCBE

23% PRSD

0% Cape, Francophone, other

65% **parents/caregivers**

30% **staff members**

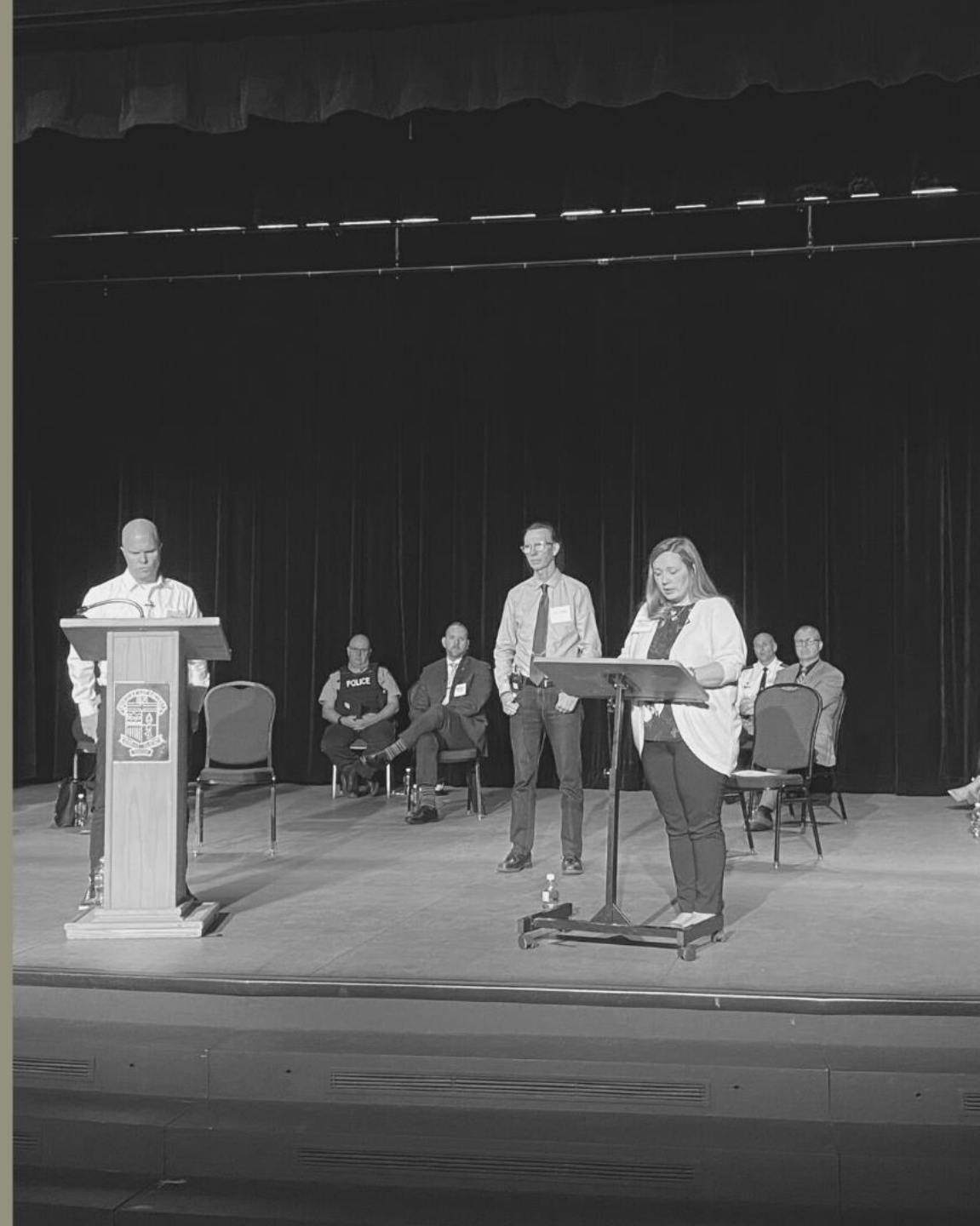
2% **community members**

2% **support partners**



**70% found
both
presentations
equally helpful**

20% found Kevin Cameron most helpful
10% found Greg and Claire most helpful



**95% reported that the
information
presented was
applicable and useful
for their family**

86% felt they have a better
understanding of the
supports available to them
following the meeting
through their local school or
in the community

38% **plan to seek**
out supports after
watching this
presentation

15% *seek school supports*

23% *seek community supports*

62% **DO NOT** plan to seek out
supports after watching this
presentation

2% *Financial constraints or cost*

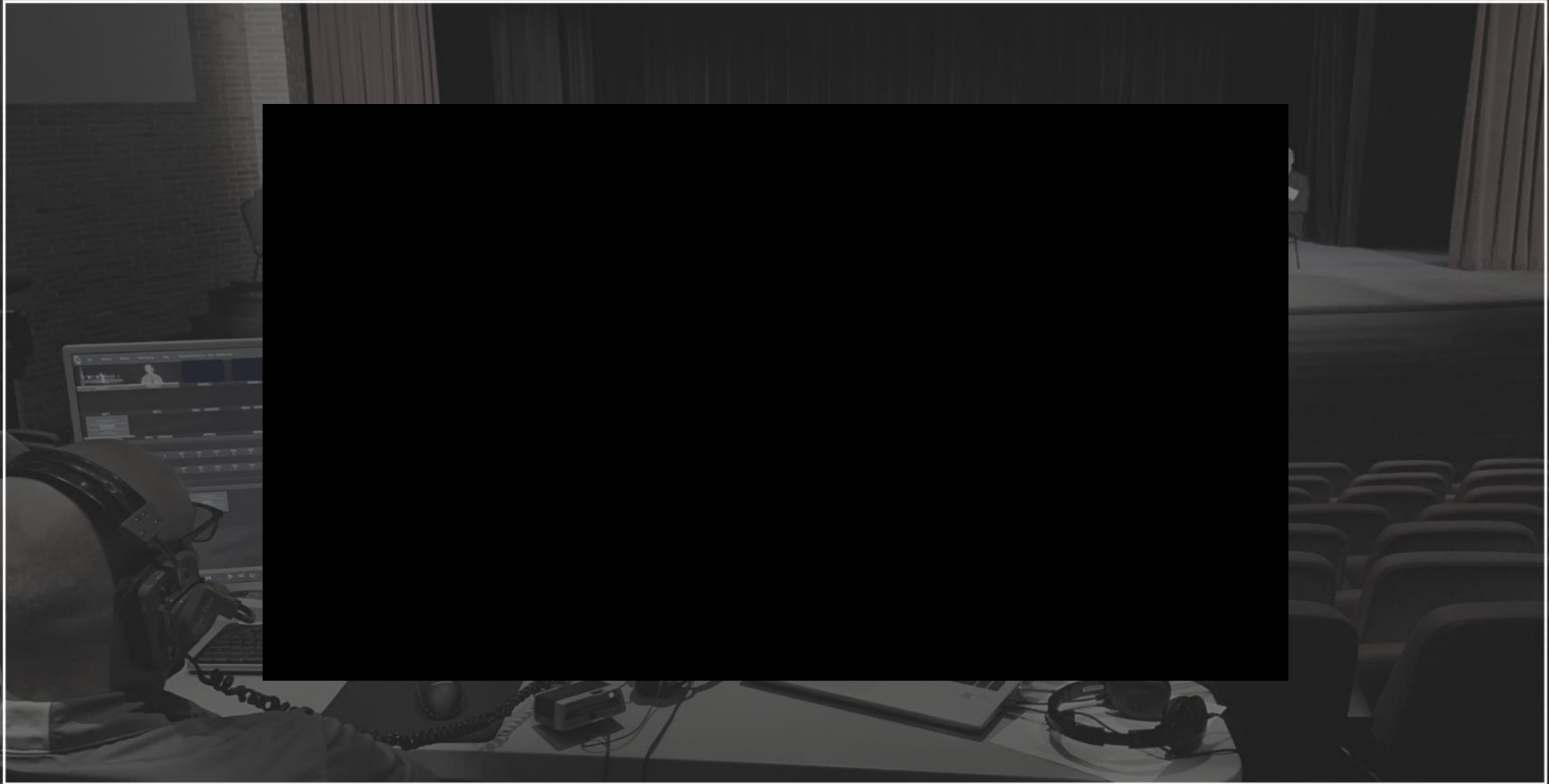
4% *Availability/wait times*

2% *Don't know where to go or start*

2% *Tried in the past, was unsuccessful*

84% Family isn't in need of supports at this time

6% *Other*





Next Steps

Suggestions from Kevin Cameron to consider:

- Bring our parents and caregivers together for a follow up meeting (step 2).

Further team planning will happen Thursday, October 22/20 at MHPSD office.

Think about creating an opportunity for in-person and/or virtual session involving live question and answers with each division's key resource people.

Have each division plan for the same type of event so that it demonstrates a cohesive approach across the region.

