

# Mental Health Awareness & Trespass Prevention Strategies



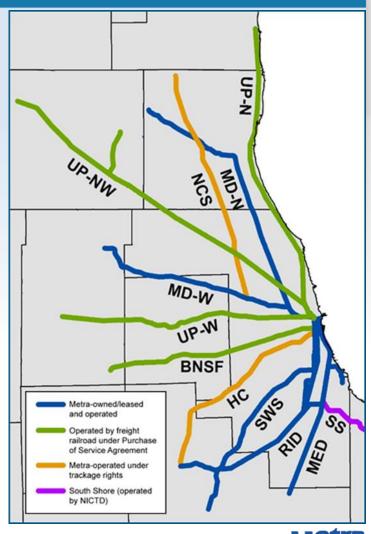
### Agenda

- Metra System Overview
- Operational Challenges of Trespasser Prevention
- Public Education and Outreach
- Near Miss Program
- QPR Mental Health Awareness Training
- Mental Health Awareness Symposium & Signs
- Operational Challenges & Caring for our Crews
- Volpe Partnership Google and Twitter Analytics



### Metra System Overview

- 83 million passenger trips in 2016
- 290,000 average weekday ridership
- 11 rail lines
- 487 route miles
- Nearly 700 weekday trains
- 241 train stations
- 24 rail yards
- 12 fuel facilities
- 571 grade crossings
- 823 bridges
- 149 locomotives
- 845 diesel railcars (coaches)
- 186 electric railcars (coaches)
- 90,779 parking spaces





### Operational Challenges of Trespasser Prevention

### Trespasser Prevention

- Open System
- ➤ Large system (about the size of the State of Connecticut)
- People use railroad property as a shortcut, taking pictures etc.
- Limited number of police officers to patrol the system
- > Trains travel at 79mph max speed
- > It takes a train up to a mile to stop
- Metra interfaces with freight, Amtrak trains



### Public Outreach/Education

### **Operation Lifesaver**

- Schools, Pre-K 12
- High School Drivers' Education
- Community Events & Fairs
- Professional Drivers (Truck Drivers)
- School Bus Drivers
- Metra's Station Safety Blitz Prgm. (50+ Stations a year)



Railroad Safety Week September 23-29, 2018









### **Near Miss Reports**

### **Trespasser Notifications**

- Engineers/Conductors
- Metra Police
- Local Police
- The Public



Date: Time:	A.M. P.M.
Reporter Name:	Phone #:
Employee ID:	
Frain #: Line/Subdiv	rision:
Street / Mile Post:	DOT#:
Nearest Station:	City:
Molator Type:	
Enter information below that best descri	
Vehicle Details	Vehicle Type
License Plate #:	- ☐ Bicycle ☐ Emergency
State:	
State:	
	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle
Make:	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle
Make:	Bus
Make:	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle Minivan / Van SUV / Pickup Truck Construction
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Make:	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle Minivan / Van SUV / Pickup Truck Construction  Trespasser Activity Crossed in front of train
Make:	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle Minivan / Van SUV / Pickup Truck Construction  Trespasser Activity Crossed in front of train Group gathering around crossing/platform
Make:	Bus Taxi / Limousine Car Motorcycle Minivan / Van SUV / Pickup Truck Construction  Trespasser Activity Crossed in front of train Group gathering around crossing/platform Playing chicken / other Walking/tunning down tracks Went around, under or through
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### QPR Mental Health Awareness Training

#### Situational Clues

- Gender (especially male)
- Time of year (between Thanksgiving & the New Year)
- Time of day (morning and evening rush hour)
- Location (official vs. unofficial crossing points)
- Previous suicides (especially by train Copycats)
- Calls from municipalities (e.g. police)
- Other passengers' reports/complaints

#### Indirect Verbal Clues

- "I'm tired of life, I just can't go on."
- "My family would be better off without me."
- "Who cares if I'm dead anyway."
- "I just want out."
- "I won't be around much longer."
- "Pretty soon you won't have to worry about me."

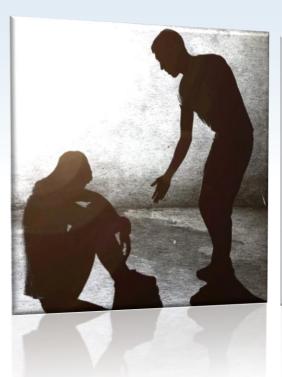
#### Direct Verbal Clues

- "I've decided to kill myself."
- "I wish I were dead."
- "I'm going to commit suicide."
- "I'm going to end it all."
- "If (such and such) doesn't happen, I'll kill myself."
- "I hate my life, I don't want to live anymore."

### QPR - Question, Persuade, Refer

Ask a Question, Save a Life - You Plant the Seeds of hope... Hope Helps prevent suicide.

### <u> Metra</u>



## Suicide Clues and Warning Signs:

#### **Behavioral Clues:**

- \*Nervous/anxious appearance
- \*Agitated or Angry
- \*Pacing or waiting near the right-of-way
- \*Waiting on a platform, but never boarding
- \*Sitting in a parked car
- \*Dressed in dark clothing
- \*Lack of belongings (backpacks, bags, purse, etc.
- \*Standing on the edge of the platform on the yellow tacktile
- \*Same person exhibiting unusual behavior for multiple days
- \*For regular passengers: appearance/demeanor suddenly changes (e.g. yelling, crying, unshaven etc.)

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### Mental Health Awareness Symposium

Metra Mental Health Awareness Symposium for the Reduction of Suicides and Trespassing Incidents along Railroad Right-of-Ways





A MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS & SUICIDE PREVENTION SYMPOSIUM FOR THE REDUCTION OF SUICIDES ALONG RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAYS

 $\sim$  A PARTNERSHIP  $\sim$  BETWEEN THE RAIL INDUSTRY AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMUNITY





### Mental Health Awareness Signs & Partnership





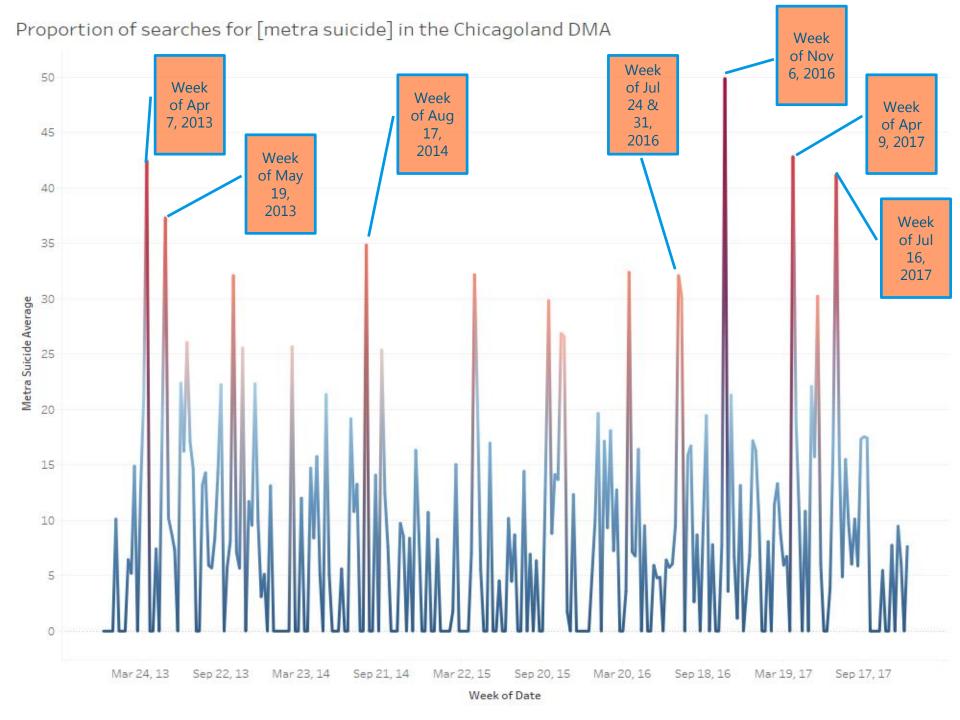


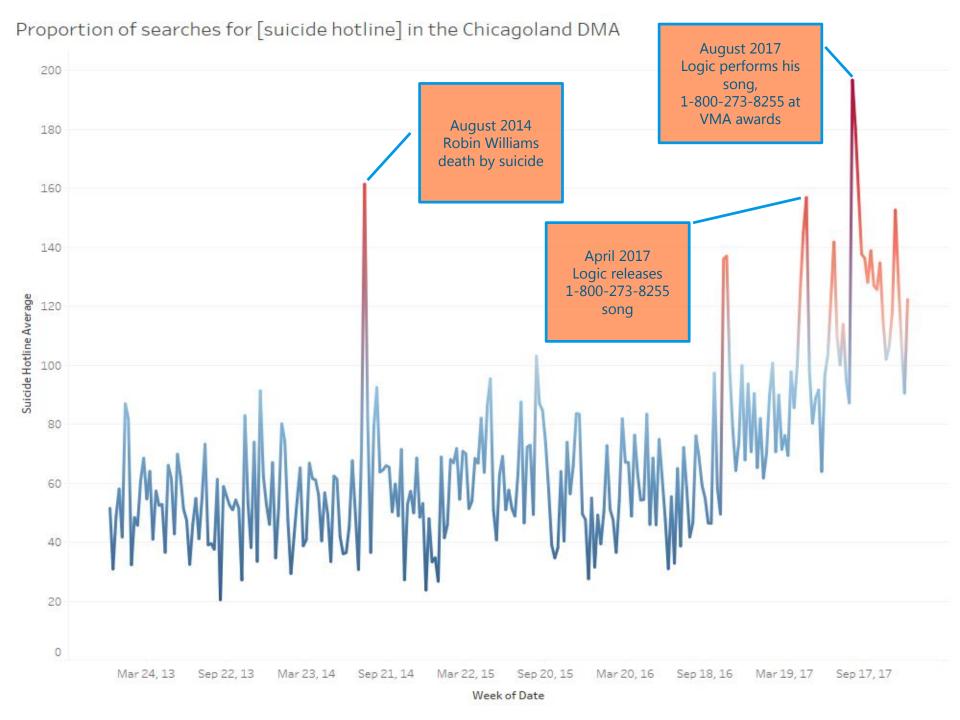


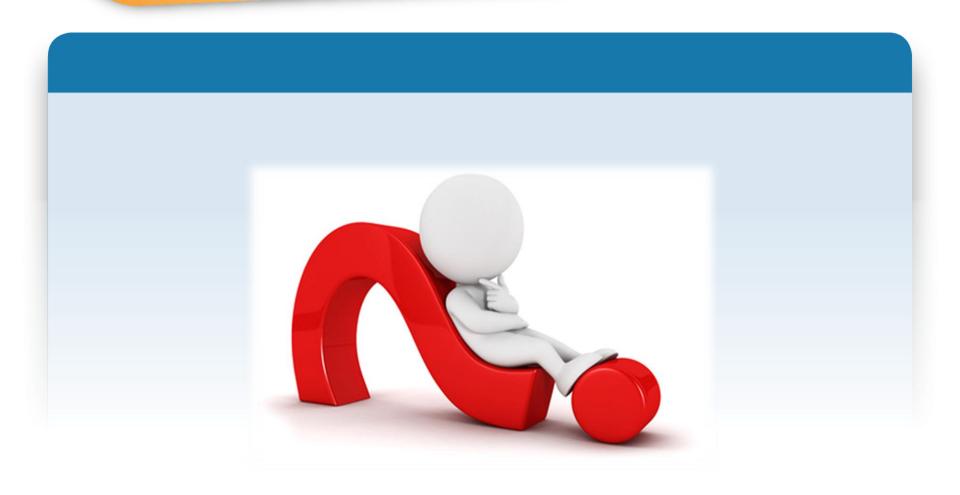
### Operational Challenges & Caring for the Crew

### **When A Fatality Occurs**

- > Love ones grieve the loss
- > The Engineer and Conductor are emotionally affected
- Conductor has to identify the remains and assist EMS
- > Brakeman is responsible to ensure passengers are kept updated regarding the delays
- Passengers can be emotionally affected as well
- Passengers encounter long delays
- > Trains begin stacking during rush hour
- ➤ Passengers are inconvenienced and become irritable because they are late picking up children form daycare etc.
- Downtown Stations become overcrowded and pose additional safety concerns







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