

Suicide Prevention

Training, Education & Consulting



Suicide at a Glance

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death for Americans. It is the second leading cause of death for college-age youth and those aged 12-18. Suicide is the third leading cause of death for Americans aged 10-24. More teenagers and young adults die from suicide than from cancer, heart disease, AIDS, birth defects, stroke, pneumonia, influenza, and chronic lung disease combined. The highest rates of suicide occur at middle age (45-64), with elevated rates among the elderly (65 and over). Suicide among military veterans is skyrocketing (CDC, 2014).

Building Resiliency Through Evidence-Based Training and Education Services

Suicide negatively impacts individuals, families, organizations and communities. Questions about why the suicide happened, whether signs were missed, and how to recover a sense of normalcy can seem overwhelming when a loved one, student or colleague makes the fateful decision to end their life. We want answers. We want to understand and heal from the trauma. Moreover, we want to prevent it from ever happening again.

UMass Medical School offers nationally-recognized capabilities in suicide prevention, response and recovery. We provide:

- Training & Education
- Consulting
- Prevention, Intervention & Postvention Planning
- Research

A Focus on Prevention

More than 38,000 suicides were reported in the United States in 2010 – making it the 10th leading cause of death for Americans according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Suicide is a preventable public health problem. UMass Medical School's approach and expertise can help organizations develop plans that emphasize prevention. We offer specialized training for:

- Public safety, including Police, Fire, EMS and Corrections Departments
- Mental Health professionals
- Military personnel
- School and University professionals
- Community organizations

Customizable Services

Our experts offer a wide range of services to suit your short and long-term needs, such as training and education programs, including various levels of practice certifications. We can also help organizations develop comprehensive crisis response plans.

Topics include:

- Suicide Prevention
- Self-Care for Responders
- Crisis Intervention
- Risk Management
- Stress Identification & Management
- Cultural Competency & Working With Special Populations



Organizations That Have Benefited From Our Expertise

- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. Department of Justice
- New York State Office of Mental Health
- Connecticut Department of Mental Health
- Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Oklahoma Suicide Prevention Program
- Oregon Suicide Prevention Program
- Society for the Prevention of Teen Suicide
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health
- Massachusetts Vocational Association
- Massachusetts Teachers Association
- Massachusetts National Guard
- Massachusetts State Police and Massachusetts County Sheriffs' Departments
- Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association
- Massachusetts Northwest District Attorney's Office
- Massachusetts Middle District Attorney's Office

Why Choose Us?

Our expertise is grounded in the best science and informed by extensive experience in the field, working with organizations at the federal, state and local levels to prevent, respond and recover from incidents involving suicide. Our clinician educators are leaders who bring more than 30 years of combined research and real-world experience to assist our clients in dealing with the most difficult situations. We work in partnership with them to increase knowledge of suicide and the many factors that contribute to it.

UMass Medical School experts can assist schools, organizations, agencies and communities with suicide prevention, intervention and postvention planning and strategies.



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