

## Suicide Prevention Month Activities for September 2020

### About National Suicide Prevention Month

Each year, national organizations such as the American Association of Suicidology, the Suicide Prevention Resource Center, the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, and local suicide prevention organizations conduct a variety of activities to increase the awareness about the increase in suicide deaths among young people. National Suicide Prevention month is from September 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020.

This year, through a coordinated series of suicide prevention events coordinated by the Institute of Adolescent Suicide Prevention, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology will join with K-12 schools and other suicide prevention organizations to increase awareness and encourage the participation of students, staff, and faculty throughout TCSP in suicide prevention activities during the month of September.

*“The rate at which our adolescents are losing their lives to suicide is at an all-time high. This has been a national tragedy unfolding right before our eyes for some time. We cannot sit back and continue to let suicide be a leading cause of death for young people. Let’s make suicide prevention a priority. Let’s push through any and all barriers to save 45,000 lives a year.”*

—Dr. Michele Nealon

President, The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

### Schedule of Events

#### Virtual Panel Discussion: “Young Black Lives Matter”

Wednesday, Sept. 2 at 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. PST

**REGISTER [HERE](#).** There is no charge for this event.

This 90-minute virtual panel discussion addresses the increased risk of suicide among African American adolescent males. On Dec. 17, 2019 The Congressional Black Caucus Emergency Task Force of Black Youth Suicide and Mental Health issued the “Ring the Alarm on Black Youth Suicide” report discussing the alarming rise in suicides among black youth. The panel will address the findings and recommendations of that report. Dr. Michael Pines, Executive Director of the Institute for Adolescent Suicide Prevention will moderate the panel discussion. Panelists include: Drs. Clive Kennedy, Tica Lopez, Paula Rainer, Tonya Sawyer-McGee, Claudia Shields, and Jojo Hickson, MA

#### World Suicide Prevention Panel Discussion: “Trauma, Pain, and Politics in Northern Ireland”

Thursday Sept. 10 at 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. PST - WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY!

**REGISTER [HERE](#).** There is no charge for this event.

Presenter Dr. James Galezewski and an alumni panel will conduct a 90-minute virtual panel discussion addressing modern and contemporary history of sectarian conflict in Ireland and the social, religious, interpersonal, and psychological impact of the conflict via observing and interacting with the activities of the Public Initiative to Prevent Suicide and Self-harm Charity in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Information about a Student Study Abroad opportunity to visit Northern Ireland from 4/28/21-5/7/21 offered through the TCSP International Programs and Services will also be presented.

### **Faculty Suicide Prevention Webinars**

Timely and informative virtual webinars from the IASP Library will be presented by expert TCSPP Faculty through via the Institute for Professional & Continuing Education.

**Wed. Sept. 16 at 12:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. EST**

Dr. Lawrence Riso – “*Core Competencies for the Assessment and Management of Suicide*”  
**REGISTER [HERE](#).** Fee \$50.00

**Wed. Sept. 23 at 12:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. EST**

Dr. Gary Goins – “*The Deadly Link Between Child Abuse and Suicide*”  
**REGISTER [HERE](#).** Fee: \$50.00

**Wed. Sept. 30 at 12:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. EST**

Dr. Tonya Sawyer-McGee – “*Surviving Suicide Loss: Journey to Healing*”  
**REGISTER [HERE](#).** Fee: \$50.00

### **“Out of the Darkness” Virtual Community Walks & Competition**

The TCSPP Alumni Affairs Division is forming community-based teams to participate in the “Out of the Darkness” virtual suicide prevention walks in October. Virtual events will be planned for the following locations:

- Washington, D.C. (October 24, 2020)
- Southern California (October 24, 2020)
- Chicago, IL (October 17 and 18, 2020)
- Dallas, TX (October 31, 2020)

The team with the greatest participation will be recognized by the Institute for Adolescent Suicide Prevention. To register or to learn more, contact Alyse Faour at [afaour@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:afaour@thechicagoschool.edu). There is no cost to participate.

### **Virtual Suicide Prevention Poster Contest**

This year, IASP is hosting an inter-campus competition for students to submit poster competition entries with images and messaging about youth suicide prevention. All entries will be displayed on Social Media. The winning entry will be recognized by the Institute for Adolescent Suicide Prevention. To request an official entry form, please email: [iasp@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:iasp@thechicagoschool.edu). There is no cost for this event.

Please join us for these timely and important events.

For questions and additional information contact Dr. Michael Pines, Executive Director, Institute for Adolescent Suicide Prevention at [mpines@thechicagoschool.edu](mailto:mpines@thechicagoschool.edu).

***September is Suicide Prevention Month!***