AAS MISSION STATEMENT: To promote the understanding and prevention of suicide and support those who have been affected by it.

AAS VISION STATEMENT: We are an inclusive community that envisions a world where people know how to prevent suicide and find hope and healing.

We accomplish this mission by directing efforts to:

• Advance Suicidology as a science; encouraging, developing, and disseminating scholarly work in suicidology.
• Encourage the development and application of strategies that reduce the incidence and prevalence of suicidal behaviors.
• Compile, develop, evaluate, and disseminate accurate information about suicide behaviors to the public.
• Foster the highest possible quality of suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention to the public.
• Publicize official AAS positions on issues of public policy relating to suicide.
• Promote research and training in suicidology.

Founded in 1968 by Edwin S. Shneidman, PhD, AAS promotes research, public awareness programs, public education and training for professionals and volunteers. In addition, AAS serves as a national clearinghouse for information on suicide.

The membership of AAS includes mental health and public health professionals, researchers, suicide prevention and crisis intervention centers, school districts, crisis center volunteers, survivors of suicide loss, attempt survivors, and a variety of lay persons who have in interest in suicide prevention.

AAS, a not-for-profit organization, encourages and welcomes both individual and organizational members.

www.suicidology.org
To Our Members

When historians of Suicidology look back on 2016, they'll likely determine it as the tone-setting year for the future of AAS. Innovation, technology, and social media were the words reverberating off of the halls and pillars at the 2016 conference. Voices of lived experience were again lifted and praised for their power. We saw the introduction of online-based veterans and service members services through groundbreaking collaborations.

The annual conference was a major success, with a record-setting number of registrants. The conference social media team saw the most substantial increase in participation since its introduction in 2013. Over 22 thousand tweets were sent out using the #AAS16 hashtag, with a total of nearly 72 million timeline deliveries. With almost 1500 people actively tweeting, followers all over the country and across the globe were able to receive important suicide prevention messaging and tidbits on research in real-time.

The introduction of TED-style 15-minute plenary presentations each morning of the conference added an innovative layer to the way critical suicide prevention messaging was communicated.

On top of everything else, AAS was able to establish premiere partnerships (grants) with military and veteran groups. These initiatives included education and outreach for National Guard/Reservists, their families, and mental health providers; as well as identifying suicide prevention priorities for active duty personnel.

Under the editorial direction of Thomas Joiner, Ph.D., Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, a peer-reviewed academic journal published by Wiley-Blackwell on behalf of AAS, released 6 issues and 715 pages of content. SLTB downloads via Wiley Online Library increased by 34% in 2016. Additionally, we'd like to thank Dr. Mike Anestis for the countless hours he volunteered to moderate our incredibly popular listerv. In 2016 we were excited to begin offering no-cost webinars and accompanying CEs to members on a variety of suicide prevention related topics.

We here at AAS are very much looking forward to what the next year holds for our organization and the overall field of suicide prevention. Thank you to our members, part of the largest professional membership organization specializing in suicide prevention, who constantly strive to make a difference in this world and to save lives.

Major Accomplishments

The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) was awarded a grant from the Department of Suicide Prevention Office (DSPO) with the primary goal of conducting programs and trainings in suicide prevention, outreach, and education for National Guard members, Reserves, their families, and mental health providers who provide treatment.

AAS partnered with the National Center for Veterans Studies (NCVS) at The University of Utah, the CBS Community Partnerships Division, and CALIBRE, to develop and evaluate a pilot project designed to increase the knowledge and competency of community mental health professionals, to increase service member awareness of these services, and to increase service utilization by Reserve Component personnel and families. Over the course of the 18-month period of performance, the pilot project developed a series of online training modules and two-day advanced training workshops for licensed mental health professionals, and online skills training and educational modules for service members and their families.

The pilot project achieved all of its objectives during its brief period of performance, and provided clear evidence supporting the feasibility of strategic community partnerships aimed at addressing the mental health needs of the military community.

The Military Suicide Research Consortium (MSRC) is part of an ongoing strategy to integrate and synchronize U.S. Department of Defense and civilian efforts to implement a multidisciplinary research approach to suicide prevention. Funded through the Defense Health Program and managed by the Military Operational Medicine Research Program (MOMRP), this innovative cutting-edge program aims to enhance the military’s ability to quickly identify those at risk for suicide and provide effective evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies.

The Independent Scientific Peer Review Panel (ISPRP) is established under subcontract to the MSRC, a grant-funded partnership being directed by Dr. Pete Gutierrez, at the Denver MIRECC, and Dr. Thomas Joiner at Florida State University. The Consortium asked AAS to establish and manage the ISPRP to assess the significance and scientific merit of research projects proposed to the MSRC and to offer constructive feedback to improve a proposed project’s methodology, among other criteria.
The 49th Annual Conference was held in Chicago, IL
March 27- April 2, 2016

Program Chairs: Laura Frey, PhD, LMFT
Julie Cerel, PhD, President-elect

Key Points:
• Introduced TED-style Talks for “15 minutes of what matters in suicidology”
• Comprehensive public health and community level interventions
• Mental health stigma and the military
• The complexity of suicide research and what we should do going forward
• The use of online technology in suicide prevention
• Suicide and self-sacrifice of eusociality
• The importance of loss survivors’ roles in public awareness

28th Annual AAS/AFSP/TAPS Healing After Suicide Loss Conference

Program Co-Chairs:
Janet Schnell MSW, LCSW
Doreen Marshall, PhD
Kim Ruocco, MSW and Kim Burditt

This conference is presented concurrently with the Annual Conference specifically focused on loss survivors, taking place in this order:

• Diverse panel of loss survivors sharing their perspectives on Hope and Healing
• Healing sessions specific to each person’s relationship to their passed loved one
• Luncheon with keynote loss speaker
• Sets of workshop sessions designed to help a loss survivor in their healing process

Conference Sponsors:

Gold Sponsors:

Plenary Sponsor:

ProtoCall
The membership of AAS includes mental health and public health professionals, researchers, suicide prevention and crisis intervention centers, school districts, crisis center volunteers, survivors of suicide loss, attempt survivors, and a variety of lay persons who have an interest in suicide prevention.

As benefits to AAS membership have increased over the years, 2016 saw an emphasis on our free-to-members webinars with the Research Division providing seven and the Crisis Center Division providing one. These informative and engaging digital platforms provided members, in a multitude of locations, a variety of topics for discussion relating to suicide and suicide prevention. Webinars also provided members continuing education units free of charge.

Our previous newsletter, Newslink, has grown into a digital monthly Member Update containing messages from our Board Members, announcements of upcoming events and information, and current news links of interest for the field of suicidology.

With seven distinct divisions, AAS serves a wide range of suicide prevention advocates:

- Attempt Survivor/Lived Experience
- Clinical
- Crisis Centers
- Loss Survivors
- Prevention
- Research
- Students

Our membership numbers have stayed steady over the 2016 year.
AAS is comprised of 7 different divisions. For more information about these divisions and how to get involved, please contact AAS at info@suicidology.org or 202-237-2280

**ATTEMPT SURVIVORS/LIVED EXPERIENCE**  
Chair: DeQuincy Lezine, PhD

**CLINICAL**  
Chair: David Covington, LPC, MBA

**CRISIS CENTERS**  
Chair: Amelia Lehto

**LOSS SURVIVOR**  
Chair: Janet Schnell

**PREVENTION**  
Chair: John Draper, PhD

**RESEARCH**  
Chair: Lisa Brenner, PhD

**STUDENTS**  
Chair: Ray Tucker, MS

Each year, AAS provides several trainings to a variety of members interested in the intersection of suicide prevention and their primary fields.

Our trainings require participants to attend in person trainings or pass exams after a thorough review of the materials.

We also currently have **15 certified crisis center examiners**.

Trainings taking place in 2016 include:

- Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk (RRSR) for Clinicians  
  530
- Recognizing and Responding to Suicide Risk: Primary Care (RRSR-PC)  
  181
- Clinician Bereavement Training  
  71
- Psychological Autopsy Certification Training  
  33
- Crisis Worker Certification  
  120
- School Suicide Prevention Accreditation  
  19
- College/University Suicide Prevention Accreditation  
  12
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior (SLTB) is AAS’ official peer-reviewed scholarly journal published bi-monthly by Wiley Publications. For over forty years, SLTB has enabled professionals to keep abreast of the latest research and examine approaches to life-threatening behaviors.

The journal employs biological, statistical, and sociological approaches to explore the full range of issues in suicidology.

2016 SLTB QUICK FACTS

- Online downloads of SLTB increased 34% from 2011 to 2016
- 6 issues were published with 54 articles
- Article contributors spanned from 60 different countries
- 3,901 institutions world-wide offered access to SLTB via Wiley Publications
- Wiley completed Article Anywhere, which is now the default article view on mobile devices

A huge thank you to our journal editor, Dr. Thomas Joiner

KEY 2016 PARTNERSHIPS INCLUDE:

- AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION (AFSP)
- DEFENSE SUICIDE PREVENTION ORGANIZATION (DSPO)
- EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT CENTER (EDC)
- INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION (IASP)
- THE JED FOUNDATION
- LIVINGWORKS EDUCATION
- THE NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION
- NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION
- NIMH OUTREACH PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM
- QPR INSTITUTE
- RI INTERNATIONAL
- SUICIDE AWARENESS/VOICES OF EDUCATION (SAVE)
- TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS (TAPS)
2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DAVID MILLER, PHD
President
Term through April 2017

TONY WOOD
Board Chair
Term through May 2019

JULIE CEREL, PHD
President-Elect
Term through April 2017

AMY BOLAND, CPA
Treasurer
Term through April 2017

MARNIN J. HEISEL, PHD
Secretary
Term through April 2017

BILL SCHMITZ JR, PSYD
Past-President
Term through April 2017

DEQUINCY A. LEZINE, PHD
Attempt Survivor/Lived Experience Div. Chair
Term through April 2018

DAVID COVINGTON, LPC, MBA
Clinical Division Chair
Term through April 2017

AMELIA LEHTO
Crisis Centers Division Chair
Term through April 2019

JANET SCHNELL, MSW, LSW
Loss Survivor Division Chair
Term through April 2018

JOHN DRAPER, PHD
Prevention Division Chair
Term through April 2018

LISA BRENNER, PHD
Research Division Chair
Term through April 2017

RAY TUCKER, MS
Student Division Chair
Term through April 2019

SKIP SIMPSON, JD
Member-At-Large
Term through October 2018

IRVING GUTIN
Member-At-Large
Term through December 2016

BERYL JONES-WOODIN, JD
Member-At-Large
Term through December 2016

AMANDA WARRINER, ESQ
Member-At-Large
Term through October 2016

AMY J. KULP, MS
Ex-Officio

STAFF

Interim Executive Director: AMY J. KULP, MS
Communications Manager: JUSTIN FERRESE
Program Assistant: SARA LYCETT, MA
Manager Of Special Projects And Training/Accreditation: SHARON MCCARTHY, MPH, MSW
Project Manager: JENNIFER TINCH, MA
Website Designer: SHAYNE ABRAHAMS
Membership & Publications Coordinator: NICOLE GREENOUGH, MA
Instructional Designer: KIMBERLEY SCOTT, PHD
Research Assistant: JULIA WOOD

INTERNS

AAS is pleased to provide internships for undergraduate and graduate students throughout the college semester term as well as during the summer.

In 2016, we had 5 interns from 4 different colleges/universities including an international university student from Sweden interested in suicidology!

12
Financial Summary

The information below is from our FY 2016 Audited Financial Statements and IRS 990 Tax Return Form. The American Association of Suicidology is exempt from federal income taxes under the tax code 501©3 of the internal revenue code.

Revenue fy 2016

Expenses fy 2016

Thank You

LightHopeLife Inc.
Heartbeat Monroe
Amy Boland
Irving Gutin
Phyllis A. Mikiy, B.S., R.D.
Jan M. Merin
Anne Tyson
Liberty Middle School
Cheryl A. King, Ph.D.
Carolyn R. Pepler
Lucy Davidson
Karen D’Eramo
Julie Cerel, Ph.D.
Alec L. Miller
Bart Andrews, Ph.D.
James L. Winkle College of Pharmacy
Nancy Habig
Rachel Henderson-Pennington
Lori Parkin
Tamara E Doss
Carole A. Maschka
Michael Gallup
Roger and Dotty Nittler
Joyce Wilemon
Raymond Tucker
Ashley Massart
Cheryl Johnson
Janet Schnell, MSW, LSW
Amelia Anderson-Mooney, Ph.D.
Jill Joyce, M.D.
Kathleen Whittaker
Bill Schmitz, Jr., Psy.D.
Kim Kane, MPA
Earl Cooper, D.Min.
Yeates Conwell, M.D.
Christopher Askew
Kevin R Briggs

Vention Resources, Inc. PBC
Palmetto High School
Lanny Berman, Ph.D.
Meredith Romero
Anthony Wood
Harry Rockland· Miller, Ph.D.
Carol Gallione
Greenman Theatre Troupe, NFP
Jordan Claire Carqueville
Bruce and Mary Hammers
Joanna Wiese
Dillon Harp
Gladys Barrett Merrick
Maureen L. Underwood
Ellis A Ballard, Jr.
Integrated Health Resources, L.L.C.
David Soria
Gail Strubhar
Nancy Brohawn
Barbara Baum
Leigh Ann Hersel
Maryam Mohammad
Robert and Elizabeth Kaffer
Edward J. Murphy
Karen M. Singer
Aaron M. Jacoby, Ph.D.
Albert C. Cain, Ph.D.
Iris Bolton, M.A.
Cassandra Smith
Survivors of Suicide, Inc.
Robin Morris
John E. Bradford
Marilyn Koenig
Ian Rockett
Stacey Peek
Norris Phuoc Nguyen

Susan Auerbach
David W. Covington, LPC, MBA
Leonard Harvey
Judy Johnson
James Mazza, Ph.D.
Ellen Knoppow
Marnin J. Heisel, Ph.D.
Robin Roemer
Mary and Bruce Marye
Ed Nelson, MSW
Raymond Fletcher
Skip Simpson
John Draper, PhD
Larry Berkowitz, Ed.D.
James Burton
Veera Prakash Gunda
Camille Pousson, M.D.
Bonna Lynn Zimmerman
DeQuincy A. Lezine, Ph.D.
John Hardon
Elizabeth Folley
Julie Jenkins Kettmann
Lisa Ann Wade
Danielle Sodergren
April Chandler Foreman, PhD
Carol A. Magendie
Morton M. Silverman, M.D.
Gary Axelrod
Jerry and Mary Hooper
Toni Paul, RNC, MEd
Marcia Epstein, LMSW
Kaytee Fisher
Dale K. Rose, MA
David Miller, Ph.D.
Monica J. Indart, Psy.D.
Casey Covel
LOOKING AHEAD

50th Annual Conference Celebration
Welcoming our new Executive Director

Increased Social Media Presence
Expand in-depth programming to facilitate organizational growth among the leadership and board of directors
Foster understanding and opportunity for support for survivors of suicide loss

CALL TO ACTION:

GET INVOLVED!

• Are you a clinician? Take a training!
• Are you a school professional? Get certified!
• Share awareness messages by liking us on Facebook and following us on Twitter @AASuicidology
• Host a Suicide Prevention Event

Donate now

@AASuicidology
@AASuicidology