CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Deadline</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submission Deadline</td>
<td>11/12/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review Deadline</td>
<td>12/17/2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Decision Deadline</td>
<td>12/22/2021</td>
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AAS 22
APRIL 27-30 CHICAGO, IL
Dear Suicidology Community:

We are excited to announce the Call for Abstracts for AAS22—the 55th Annual Conference of the American Association of Suicidology! The activities are organized in a hybrid format with a dynamic in-person conference and a virtual attendance option. **AAS22 will be held April 28–30, 2022** at the Hyatt Regency O’Hare in Chicago, as well as online, with pre-conference workshops taking place on Wednesday, April 27.

The strength of the AAS annual conference is that it brings together multiple sectors focused on the common goal of preventing suicide and saving lives. Our primary objectives of AAS22 are to:

- Better equip those on the front line of prevention through the translation and application of research;
- Identify new and evolving research that will help prevent suicides;
- Embrace and integrate equity into the conference conversations; and
- Integrate the voices of lived experience—including impacted family members—throughout all disciplines.

**Widen Perspectives and Conversations**

The common thread we are weaving throughout sessions and discussions is how we can continue to **Widen the Lens of Suicide Prevention** and be inclusive and centered on diverse experiences and perspectives. We welcome emerging, innovative areas of thought, where colleagues share developing ideas and seek collaboration to incubate and advance new approaches for effective suicide prevention.

AAS22 is an exceptional opportunity for researchers, clinicians, students, public health professionals, crisis services providers, marginalized populations, impacted families, and individuals with lived experience of loss and attempts to join together and share best practices and ideas in multiple formats. The abstract review committee will give attention to proposals approaching suicide prevention from a holistic and collaborative perspective as well as exploring the historic implementation of 988—a project that will impact the nation.
Highlight Opportunities, Address Disparities

We want our dialogue and conversations during AAS22 to look through an equity lens; address the issues associated with social determinants of health; and expand our collective voice and actions to honor, affirm, and amplify those who have been minimalized or ignored in this space. Proposals that explore these topics within our field are welcome for AAS22. Disparities exist in suicide prevention, not just in rates of suicidal thoughts and behaviors, but in representation, research, funding, and in the data we prioritize. We must intentionally re-dedicate ourselves to prioritizing equity while doing this work, including how we think about our work and how we implement our practices. We have an opportunity to open our minds to new ideas and new approaches and engage with unfamiliar scientific and non-scientific fields that can examine and highlight suicide in ways we never would have imagined while still honoring more traditional scientific approaches.

How to Submit Proposals for AAS22

We invite you to submit proposals in one of the following formats: (1) individual papers, (2) posters, (3) symposia, and (4) workshops.

The deadline for submissions is November 12, 2021, at 11:59 pm EST. Unfortunately, we are not able to review late submissions, and there will not be a submission extension. Feel free to contact us or the AAS Central Office at AAS22@suicidology.org with any questions regarding this Call for Abstracts.

Preconference programs around AAS22 will take place on Wednesday, April 27, 2022. We typically accept submissions for several preconference programs, including AAS Preconference Workshops, Crisis Services Continuum Conference, Impacted Family/Lived Experience, and Military and Veteran Suicide Prevention Preconference & Postvention Preconference. Specifics for 2022 are still being determined by the Central Office. If you are interested in learning more about preconference programs, contact the AAS Central Office at AAS22@suicidology.org.

We look forward to receiving your submissions and seeing you in Chicago!

Regards,

Annemarie Matulis
AAS22 Conference Chair
AAS22 Conference Planning Committee
DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION STATEMENT

To advance the field and work of suicidology, the AAS annual conference seeks presentations and discussions that examine historic, cultural, social, environmental, systemic, and structural issues impacting suicide theory, research, and prevention development and implementation, as well as factors affecting the lived experience of individuals and communities. Featuring a variety of voices representing diverse theoretical, research, disciplinary, experiential, cultural, and national perspectives in the AAS22 conference session is a priority. AAS is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion, and will strive to elevate the voices of individuals with lived experience as loss survivors, attempt survivors, and impacted families, along with researchers and practitioners. The AAS22 program committee welcomes conference submissions that reflect diversity of individuals and communities nationally and internationally, especially voices and viewpoints underrepresented in current suicidology dialogues.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN YOUR ONLINE SUBMISSION

Please carefully review all instructions and forms included in this packet. Advance preparation will ensure a speedy and accurate completion of your submission online.

1. Read through this entire document carefully.
2. Decide the presentation format for your submission.
3. Gather and prepare all necessary information prior to logging onto the online system. You will be able to either type the abstract directly online or cut and paste from Microsoft Word or other popular word processing software.
4. You may start and save your submission and return to it later.
POLICIES

— All presenters must be registered participants at AAS22 and are responsible for the full conference registration fee, unless noted otherwise below, as well as for any preconference programs they elect to attend. A limited number of scholarships and volunteer opportunities will be available. More information to come.

— Currently, all presenters should plan to attend AAS in person in Chicago.

— Presenters are responsible for their own travel and hotel costs.

— Presenters are eligible to apply for continuing education credits for their participation. More information will be available soon.

— AAS is staying up-to-date on the latest CDC guidance and industry best practices to limit the transmission of COVID-19. We are working closely with hotel experts, as well as city and state officials, and seeking advice from public health experts. We will continue to monitor the situation closely and will update protocols as warranted leading up to the conference. However, all presenters should plan to provide proof of vaccination and/or undergo rapid testing on site at the hotel upon arrival.

AUDIOVISUAL EQUIPMENT (for on-site presentations)—All on-site rooms will be set up with an LCD Projector Package. You will be asked to indicate any additional audiovisual needs, such as a flip chart package and external speakers for computer sound. Microphones will only be provided for large rooms at the discretion of the conference coordinator. AAS will not provide laptop computers; presenters are expected to bring their own laptop computers and any necessary cords or toggles.
DECIDING YOUR PRESENTATION FORMAT

There are four presentation formats for AAS22:

1. **Paper Presentation**
Papers generally report on original research. Papers that present new findings and/or include implications for practice and policy are encouraged. Accepted paper submissions will be scheduled as oral presentations and will be scheduled with two other paper presentations on a related topic. (Note: Paper scheduling is done by the conference organizers unless applicants indicate that they are submitting a symposium). Each paper will be allotted 20 minutes in total, including set-up, presentation, and questions. We encourage all authors to prepare a presentation no longer than 15 minutes, thereby allowing for the timing of logistics (e.g., transitioning from one presentation to the next) and for audience questions. The program committee reserves the right to assign a submitted paper as a poster presentation.

2. **Poster Presentation**
Posters report on original research. Posters that present innovative findings and/or include implications for practice and policy are encouraged. Posters will be presented in a 60-minute poster session. The poster session provides a lively forum for discussions among conference attendees. Presenters must attend the poster session. Posters display the essential contents of the project (i.e., abstract, short narrative, enlarged pictures or graphics, brief discussion). Poster presenters will receive additional information on the format, deadlines, and other logistics of the poster session.

3. **Symposia**
A symposium consists of three papers/speakers on a similar theme or topic and will be scheduled for 60 minutes. The person submitting the symposia must be prepared to provide all information for each paper, as well as the overall title of the symposium. Symposia that are accepted are expected to conform to the descriptions as submitted. Any changes (e.g., addition, subtraction, or changes in papers) must be approved by the AAS program committee.

4. **Workshop**
Workshops have a practice focus and often describe innovative or recommended practices or programs in communities, schools, health care settings, or other settings impacted by suicide. Workshops may include underlying theory or research, case studies, and lessons learned. Workshops are instructional and interactive, with time for questions and discussion. Workshops will be scheduled for 60 minutes. Time and space constraints limit the number of workshops AAS can accept. The program committee may assign workshop proposals to other presentation formats based on content and topic.
SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

All submissions must be done online using the official AAS Call for Abstracts portal, located here. Each submission should be based on completed works or projects that are in progress and reasonably expected to be completed by the conference date. Multi-authored submissions require indication of a primary presenter. Only two first-author submissions are allowed for each conference attendee. All presenting authors must register for the conference.

Topics And Sub-Categories (Keywords)
We welcome proposals that address all important topics and issues in suicidology, such as those that are described under the broad topics below. You may select one or more sub-categories as it relates to your submission. Examples given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>e.g., BIPOC community, older adults, military members/veterans, students, youth and young adults</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APPROACH/METHODOLOGY</td>
<td>e.g., qualitative methods, critical suicide studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>THEME OR ISSUE</td>
<td>e.g., nonfatal suicidal behaviors, discrimination, violence, primary prevention</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISCIPLINE</td>
<td>e.g., ethnic studies, human rights studies, gender studies, public health, LGBTQ+ studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTENDED AUDIENCE</td>
<td>e.g., academics, clinicians, policy makers, military/veterans, BIPOC community members, lived experience (attempt survivors, bereaved loss survivors, impacted families), first responders, LGBTQ+, and any and all others</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The AAS22 conference program selection committee gives priority to abstracts that relate to the themes previously outlined: reflect the importance of widening the lens, as well as advancing equity and inclusion in the field.
When you make your submission, be sure to check the relevant criteria: population, approach/methodology, theme or issue, discipline, and intended audience.

We receive many more submissions than the program committee can accept; as such, we encourage applicants to provide a clear, comprehensive, and impactful description of your proposal.

The deadline for submissions to be entered online is November 12, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. EST. Access to the online submission system officially closes November 13, 2021, at 12:01 a.m. EST. Late submissions WILL NOT be accepted.

NOTE: You are highly encouraged to complete your submission in advance of the November 12 deadline!

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

Each presentation format has different requirements for the abstract and description as outlined below.

1. Conference workshop abstracts should include:
   - Two to three learning objectives
   - Summary of key skills, knowledge, and content to be covered
   - Description of training materials to be used, if applicable (in as much detail as possible)
   - An explicit statement of the role of each presenter

2. Research paper and poster abstracts (those which required IRB approval) should include:
   - One learning objective
   - Research aims
   - Methods
   - Results
   - Conclusions
   - What the work adds to knowledge on the topic
3. Non-research paper and poster abstracts (those which did not require IRB approval) should include:
   — One learning objective
   — Clear description of central theme, project, program, and content
   — Methods
   — Outcomes/lessons learned
   — What the work adds to knowledge on the topic

4. Symposia consist of three papers on a similar topic or theme and abstracts should include:
   — Two to three learning objectives
   — Title of paper
   — List of authors
   — Research aims
   — Methods
   — Results
   — Conclusions
   — What the work adds to knowledge on the topic

**REVIEW CRITERIA**

Proposals will be assessed on the following:

   — Relevant and innovative approach
   — Evidence of impact and positive outcomes
   — Financing strategies, if appropriate
   — Practical, how-to information on approaches that can be adapted with real-world examples
   — Clear learning objectives and approaches designed to engage participants
   — Expertise relevant to the topic, including meaningful participation of families, youth, and young adults, as appropriate
   — Forward-looking discussion around next steps or future challenges and opportunities
INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTERING YOUR SUBMISSION ONLINE

SUBMITTER INFORMATION
1. Name
2. Organization/Affiliation
3. Bio/CV for all presenters

Presentation Format—See format options on page 3. Select the format from the dropdown menu.

Author Attending?—Check this box if the person submitting the presentation is planning to attend the conference. Currently, all presenters should plan to attend AAS in person in Chicago.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION
1. Abstract Title—Please use Title Case (ex. Train Your Mind for Peak Performance: A Science-Based Approach for Achieving Your Goals).
2. Topic and Intended Audiences—See page 4. Select the most appropriate topic and intended audiences for your abstract addresses.
3. Institutional Review Board (IRB) Approval—Research refers to systematic investigations aimed at increasing knowledge using scientifically recognized methods. If the submitted research involves human participants, it must have IRB (ethics) approval.
4. In the Works—The program committee welcomes unfinished works for which audience input, suggestions, and feedback is being sought. This might be data collection, which may be incomplete or projects for which presenters are seeking feedback as they proceed.
5. Abstract—Include Research Aims, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Do NOT include the title, authors’ names, or learning objectives in your abstract. You may type directly into this box or cut and paste from a word processing program. Limited to 6,500 characters.
6. **Learning Objectives**—A minimum of one learning objective is required for papers and posters. Multiple objectives are required for workshops and symposia. Learning objectives must complete this statement and begin with a verb: “At the conclusion of this presentation, the participant should be able to: (define, discuss, distinguish, formulate, list, summarize, demonstrate, etc.).” Please note: “Understand” is not an acceptable learning objective.

7. **Tools and Techniques**—Please provide details on specific presentation techniques you will use to meet the learning objectives.

8. **Contribution to Current Literature**—Please comment on what is unique and/or new about the submission.

9. **DEI Considerations** (Please see page 1 for clarification)—U.S. suicidology in general, and the American Association of Suicidology in particular, have a long history of primarily focusing on selective populations among dominant groups and communities, and using a psychocentric AND medical model. As part of its commitment to science and social justice, the Association seeks to expand the theories, research, and practices featured at its annual conference. We would appreciate it if you would take a few moments to consider and briefly note how your conference proposal addresses or extends suicidology science and practice regarding the inclusion, diversity, and equity issues described above. Responses will not be used in scoring proposals, but rather to understand the breadth of conference proposals concerning science and social justice.

**PRESENTER AGREEMENT**
You will be asked to read and agree to each item in the Presenter Agreement. See page 9 for a copy of the agreement.

**PRESENTER CONSENT**
AAS would like to electronically capture some or all presentations at the AAS annual conference. This is particularly important for those sessions conducted remotely. Granting permission to capture your presentation is voluntary. (Note: Consent to capture will not impact acceptance of proposal.)

**SAVING YOUR SUBMISSION**
Be sure to click on “Save” before exiting the site.

**SUBMITTING AND EDITING**
When you are satisfied with your presentation, and all presentation requirements have been met, you can finalize your presentation by selecting “Save and Finalize.” **The deadline for submitting presentations is 11:59 p.m. EST on November 12, 2021.** Late submissions will **NOT** be accepted. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**

After you have entered and finalized your submission, a confirmation message will appear on the screen from the online system. You will be contacted before the end of the year by email regarding whether your submission is accepted.
AAS22 CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

PRESENTER AGREEMENT

Please read the following carefully. You will be asked to confirm your acceptance of these terms during the online submission process.

1. I understand that my presentation may be scheduled on any of the three days of the conference, including Saturday. I further understand that the committee is under no obligation to reschedule my presentation should I make such a request.

2. I understand that at this current moment, I am expected to make every effort to attend AAS22 in person in Chicago.

3. I agree to present the content as outlined in my submission and not make any changes to the presenters without explicit permission from a member of the program committee.

4. I agree to comply with all program-related deadlines.

5. During my presentation, I will not engage in promotional marketing or selling of products or services.

6. I agree to notify the AAS conference coordinator in the event that an emergency prevents me from delivering my presentation as scheduled.

7. To the best of my knowledge, my presentation does not violate any proprietary or personal rights of others (including copyright, trademark, and privacy rights), is factually accurate, and contains nothing defamatory or otherwise unlawful. I have the full authority to enter into this agreement and have obtained all necessary permissions or licenses from any individuals or organizations whose material is included or used in my presentation.

8. I authorize AAS to use my name, likeness, photograph, and biographical data in connection with the use and promotion of the program.

9. I understand that all presenters must be registered for the conference and pay the applicable registration fee.

10. I will be responsible for all travel arrangements and expenses that I incur in order to present in-person at the AAS conference. I understand that I will not receive royalties, honoraria, reimbursement of expenses, or other compensation from AAS in connection with the program or the rights granted above.

11. I understand I will be required to upload a copy of any handouts to a designated portal prior to the conference.

By signing this Presenter Letter of Agreement, and based on mutual consideration, I understand and agree to the above terms and conditions.

SIGNATURE: ____________________________  DATE: ____________________________