Dear Suicidology Community,

We are excited to announce the Call for Papers for the 56th Annual American Association of Suicidology Conference (AAS23). Our 2023 conference will provide both a dynamic in-person experience and engaging virtual option. For those who can join us AAS23 will be held from Wednesday, April 19th to Saturday, April 22nd in Portland, Oregon at the Portland Marriott Downtown Waterfront with a pre-conference and Healing After Suicide Loss Summit to be held on Wednesday, April 19th. For those attending virtually, there will be limited yet meaningful interactive experiences provided with emerging technology.

A new format will be in place for our concurrent virtual sessions; we will be streaming live from a production studio on-site! Select sessions will be invited to present their submission twice, once in-person and once virtually. **Note: All general sessions (plenaries) will be livestreamed.**

As we look ahead at the evolving trends in suicidology, AAS23 seeks to continue expand the lens in suicide prevention by asking: What Next? Bridging the critical work of our conference attendants hailing from multiple sectors from research to practice. 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. Our primary objectives of AAS23 will be to:

- Identify new, innovative, and evolving research and information that will help prevent suicides and support those impacted by suicide
- Better equip those on the front line of prevention with evidence-supported and best practice tools
- Embrace and integrate justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion into the conference presentations and conversations
Please keep in mind the following three themes when developing your proposals:

**Foresight and Innovation**
- The theme of the conference focuses on innovations to address gaps in suicide prevention research, policy, and practice. Where is the evolutionary and revolutionary research? What are newly developed trainings, interventions, and practices that are promising? We invite new perspectives that address the emerging issues in suicidology.

**Perspective and Discourse**
- The common thread we are weaving throughout the sessions and discussions is how we can continue to elevate and advance suicide prevention to 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 and intervention.

**Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**
- We want our dialogue and conversations during AAS23 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 AAS23. Disparities exist in the field, not just in rates of suicidal thoughts and behaviors, but in representation, research, funding, and the data we prioritize. To prioritize equity, we must intentionally re-dedicate ourselves to doing this work equitably, 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 across fields to examine and highlight suicide a more equitable way.
AAS23 is an exceptional opportunity for researchers, clinicians, students, public health professionals, crisis services providers, community members, advocates, impacted families, and individuals with lived experience with ideation, attempts, loss or caregiving to come together and share best practices and innovations in multiple formats.

The abstract review committee will give attention to proposals approaching suicidology from a holistic, innovative, and collaborative perspective as well as exploring the historic implementation of 988 — a groundbreaking project that is impacting the nation.

How to Submit Proposals for AAS23

We invite you to submit proposals in one of the following formats: (1) workshops, (2) symposia, (3) paper, and (4) poster. More information on these formats and their specific requirements can be found below.

The deadline for submissions is January 6th, 2023 at 11:59 pm EST. Unfortunately, we are not able to review late submissions, and there will not be an extension. Announcements will be made February 10th, 2023.

Feel free to contact us at AAS23@suicidology.org with any questions.

AAS23 Pre-conference and Healing After Suicide Loss Summit

Pre-conference programs for AAS23 will take place on Wednesday, April 19th, 2023. We are hosting tracks this year focusing on: Prevention, Crisis Services, Military/Veteran, Innovations, and Healing After Suicide Loss Summit. Specifics for 2023 are still being determined by the AAS23 Conference Advisory Committee and AAS Office. If interested in learning more about pre-conference programs, contact the AAS Office at AAS23@suicidology.org.
Pre-Submission Note for Potential AAS23 Presenters

- Please read carefully as preparation will ensure speedy and accurate completion of your submission.

- Read through this entire document and the information within the AAS23 Submission Site to assist in deciding on and preparing your submission.

- Gather and prepare the following information before logging onto the AAS Call for Papers portal, AAS23 Submission Site. You can either type the abstract directly online or cut and paste it from Word or another standard format.

Kindly,

AAS23 Conference Advisory Committee
Annemarie Matulis, Conference Chair; Qwynn Galloway-Salazar, Ph.D. and Pata Suyemoto, Ph.D., Conference Coordinators; Dr. Jenn Carson, DSW, Preconference Chair; Judy Albelo, AAS23 Healing After Suicide Loss Summit Chair; Jacque Christmas, MPA, BSW; Tracy Oeser, MSPsy; Pam McKie, MSW; Hudson Harris

Board of Directors
Executive Committee: Tony Coder, Jacque Christmas, MPA, BSW, Don Wright, Pata Suyemoto, Ph.D., Annemarie Matulis

Division Directors
Dr. Jenn Carson, DSW, Judy Albelo, Pamela McKie, MSW

Member-at-Large
Tracey Oeser, MSPsy, Qwynn Galloway-Salazar, Ph.D., Jim Byrne, Molly Klose, MD, Hudson Harris, Tami Wright, LCSW, Shawn Mahoney

The Hybrid Group
Amie Devine, Submission System Organizer; Maegan Criscione, Registration System Organizer; Jeffrey Devine, CMP Founder

Staff
Amelia Lehto; Chris Sandwell, MS, LPC, NCC, CCTP, CSC; Rachael Ng, MBA; Michele Martin; Ariya Sonethavy
AAS23 Justice, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

To advance the field and work of suicidology, the AAS23 Advisory Committee 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 lived experience of individuals and communities.

Featuring a variety of voices representing diverse theoretical, research, disciplinary, experiential, cultural, and national perspectives in the AAS23 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 AAS23 program committee welcomes conference submissions that reflect the diversity of individuals and communities nationally and internationally, especially marginalized voices and viewpoints underrepresented in suicidology.

AAS23 Conference Audiovisual Equipment

• All presentations will be on-site, a selection of sessions will be offered virtually and live-streamed from our on-site Video Production Suite, rooms will be set up with an LCD Projector Package. You will be asked to indicate 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 laptop computers and any necessary cords or toggles.

AAS23 Presentation Submission Guidelines

• There are several requirements for presentation submissions for AAS23. All submissions must be made online using the official AAS Call for Papers portal, AAS Submission Site. Each submission should reflect completed works or projects that are in-progress and reasonably expected to be completed by the conference date. Multi-authored submissions require an indication of a primary presenter. Only two first-author submissions are allowed for each conference attendee. All presenting authors must register for the conference.
AAS23 Presentation Format Descriptions

Workshops
- Workshops have a practice focus and often explore innovative or recommended practices or programs in communities, schools, healthcare 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 60 minutes long. Time and space constraints limit the number of workshops we can accept. The program committee may assign workshop proposals to other presentation formats based on content and topic. Paper and poster presentations carry the same status and value at the AAS conference.

Symposia
- A symposium consists of three papers 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 and 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 program committee.

Paper (Research and Non-Research)
- Papers generally report on original research. However, papers presenting new findings and implications for practice and policy are encouraged. Accepted paper submissions will be scheduled as oral presentations and will be presented with two other paper presentations on a related topic. (Note: The conference organizers do paper scheduling unless applicants indicate that they are submitting a panel/symposium). Each paper will be allotted 20 minutes, 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 committee reserves the right to assign a submitted paper as a poster presentation.

Poster (Research and Non-Research)
- Posters report on original research. Posters presenting innovative findings and/or 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 poster session’s format, deadlines, and other logistics.
Categories, Sub-Categories and Keywords

- We welcome proposals addressing all critical topics and issues in suicidology, such as those described under the following broad categories. You may select one or more categories as it relates to your submission, then you will be asked to choose from a list of keywords within each category. Examples include:

  - POPULATION: e.g., Indigenous people, older adults, non-US populations, women in low- and middle-income countries.
  - APPROACH/METHODOLOGY: e.g., qualitative methods, critical suicide studies.
  - THEME OR ISSUE: e.g., nonfatal suicidal behaviors, discrimination, violence, primary prevention, resilience.
  - DISCIPLINE: e.g., ethnic studies, human rights studies, gender studies, public health, queer studies.
  - AUDIENCE: e.g., academics, clinicians, policymakers, military/veterans, BIPOC, lived experience (attempt survivors, bereaved loss survivors, impacted families), first responders, LGBTQIA+.

Priority will be given to abstracts related to the three themes previously outlined and keeps in mind the importance of expanding the lens and equity and inclusion in the field of suicidology.

When submitting, check the relevant criteria: population, approach/methodology, theme or issue, discipline, and intended audience.

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

The deadline for submissions to be entered online is January 6th, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., Eastern Standard Time. Access to the online submission system officially closes on January 6th, 2023 at midnight EST. Late submissions will NOT be accepted. You are highly encouraged to complete your submission before the January 6th, 2023 deadline.
AAS23 Submission Content Requirements

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

Conference workshop abstracts should include:

- Three to five 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

Research paper and poster abstracts (those which require IRB Approval) should include:

- One learning objective
- Research aims
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- What the work adds to knowledge on the topic

Non-Research papers and poster abstracts (those which did not require approval by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) should include:

- One learning objective
- Clear description of a central theme, project, program, and content
- Methods
- Outcomes/lessons learned
- What the work adds to knowledge on the topic

Symposia consist of three papers on a similar topic or theme, and abstracts should include:

- One learning objective
- Title of paper
- List of authors
- Research aims
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusions
- What the work adds to knowledge on the topic
AAS23 Submission Portal Tasks

Tasks to complete include, please click on each task below to enter the requested information. Once completed, the task will then appear with a large green check mark. After you have completed all of the tasks below, select "Save Submission". The following is required:

- Abstract Description
  - Submission Title
  - Thematic or Topical Area
  - Level of Material
  - Categories, Sub-Categories and Keywords
  - Abstract - Include Research Aims, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Do NOT include the title, authors’ names or learning objectives in your abstract.
  - What the work adds to knowledge on the topic
  - Abbreviated Description (150 Word Character Limit)
- Presenters
- Presenter Agreement
- Learning Objectives
- Keywords
- Disclosure with Financial Relationship
- Upload your Reference List

AAS23 Policies and Procedures for Presenters

- All Conference Presenters must register for the Conference and present in-person in Portland, OR by March 10th, 2023.

- All Conference Presenters are responsible for their associated fees, including conference registration, travel and hotel costs.**

- Presenters are eligible to apply for Continuing Education Credits for their participation. Please view the conference fee structure on the website.

- Utilize the AAS23 Submission Portal to provide presenter profile details, including a current biography, and photo by March 1st, 2023.

- Utilize the AAS23 Submission Portal to confirm presentation details, upload slides and provide any requested information required for Continuing Education Credits compliance by March 22nd, 2023

** NOTE: Notifications will go out Friday, February 10th and confirmed attendants will be offered a discounted registration (25%). Information will be included within the notification email
**AAS23 Key Dates and Info**

- **21 November**: Submission Portal Opens
- **6 January**: Submission Portal Closes
- **10 February**: Notifications to Presenters
- **1 March**: Profile Details for Conference Presenters Due
- **10 March**: Conference Presenters Registration Due
- **19 to 22 April**: Final Presentation Details Due

**Pre-conference:**
- **Wednesday, April 19th, 2023**

**Healing After Suicide Loss Summit:**
- **Wednesday, April 19th, 2023**

**Core Conference:**
- **Thursday, April 20th, 2023**
- **Friday, April 21st, 2023**
- **Saturday, April 22nd, 2023**

**Contact Info**

AAS23@suicidology.org