



A M E R I C A N TM
ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY

MAKE AN
IMPACT

2023 AAS BACKGROUNDER

ABOUT THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY

The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) is the world's largest and nation's oldest membership-based suicide prevention organization. Founded in 1968 by Edwin S. Shneidman, PhD, AAS promotes the research of suicide and its prevention, public awareness programs, public education and training for professionals and volunteers. **Learn more at www.suicidology.org**

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.

AAS COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The American Association of Suicidology provides comprehensive resources to help navigate your journey with suicide and mental health. AAS also offers a national directory of support groups that focus on a variety of survivors of suicide. **Learn more at www.suicidology.org/resources**

AAS MEMBERSHIPS

An individual AAS membership provides you with member benefits and simultaneously supports AAS's mission and vision to promote and elevate public awareness about suicide prevention. An organization AAS membership also provides member benefits and allows an organization to sponsor multiple employees. Explore all the benefits below and consider which membership level is the most aligned with your needs. **Learn more at www.suicidology.org/memberships**

AAS ACCREDITED CRISIS CENTERS

The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) has accredited crisis service organizations for nearly 50 years in the United States and internationally. The Accreditation process strives to recognize exemplary crisis service organizations, online emotional support programs, mobile crisis services, and other services supporting individuals in crisis. Achieving accreditation defines an organization's standard of practice, through the review of several areas including but not limited to administration and organizational structure, service delivery, and services in life threatening crises. Crisis Centers that comprise the National 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline often engage with AAS for Accreditation recognition, closely connecting AAS Accreditation services to a critical and growing national support network.

Learn more at www.suicidology.org/accreditation and for a complete listing of AAS Accredited Crisis Services Organizations, visit www.suicidology.org/crisiscenters.

AAS SUICIDE AND LIFE-THREATENING BEHAVIOR JOURNAL

The AAS Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior journal provides the latest research, theories, and intervention methods for suicide and life-threatening behaviors, including research from biological, psychological, and sociological approaches. **Learn more at www.suicidology.org/journal**

AAS RESEARCH PROGRAM

The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) research program focuses on advancing the understanding of suicide and suicide prevention through the promotion of scientific research and the dissemination of evidence-based information. The AAS Research Program has several key objectives, including:

- Supporting and promoting scientific research on suicide, suicidality, and life-threatening behavior
- Disseminating information on suicide prevention and intervention strategies to researchers, academics, and the general public
- Developing and implementing research-supported policies and programs to prevent suicide
- Providing training and resources to researchers, clinicians, and other professionals in the field of suicidology
- Advocating for increased funding and support for suicide prevention research

Learn more at www.suicidology.org/research

NATIONAL CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF YOUTH SUICIDE

The National Center for the Prevention of Youth Suicide (NCPYS) is a division of AAS, which offers services and programs for and by youth. NCPYS includes a Youth Advisory Board who provide input on projects aimed at reducing the number of deaths by suicide and incidences of suicidal behavior amongst their youth peers. **Learn more at www.suicidology.org/ncpys**

AAS TRAINING & CERTIFICATIONS

The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) is a world-leader in the development, implementation, and facilitation of research supported training and certification programs. Courses are evidence-supported to uphold the highest standards of care and equity for those impacted by suicide. Dynamic curricula developed by leading researchers offer an array of advanced clinical training for professionals and introductory-level courses for a variety of sectors and disciplines.

Learn more at www.suicidology.org/training

AAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The American Association of Suicidology's Annual Conference, held each spring, is the largest gathering of the Suicidology community; including clinicians, researchers, attempt survivors, crisis service professionals, public health and government officials and more. With more than 1,500 attendees (both virtual and in-person), the AAS Conference features virtual session co-hosts, live keynote addresses, poster presentations, hundreds of workshops and panel sessions, an Annual Membership Meeting, award ceremony, multiple networking opportunities, and an exhibit hall that features industry leaders, academic and training programs, resources, and community advocates.

Learn more at www.suicidology.org/aas23

HOW TO MAKE AN IMPACT

The American Association of Suicidology has several ways for you to get involved in supporting the AAS mission to promote the understanding and prevention of suicide and support those who have been affected by it. Your gift – in any amount – supports AAS as we provide training, education, and information to researchers, clinicians, and survivors working in the field of suicidology.

Learn more at www.suicidology.org/makeanimpact