



AMERICANTM
ASSOCIATION OF SUICIDOLOGY

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

59TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
ST. LOUIS, MO | MAY 17-22, 2026

ADVANCING SUICIDE PREVENTION THROUGH SCIENCE & LIVED EXPERIENCE

WELCOME TO

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

Gateway to the West

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Membership Survey

Dear Guest,

Thank you for joining the **American Association of Suicidology's 59th Annual Conference**. On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, we are delighted to welcome you to the only suicide prevention conference that bridges research to practice.

We invite you to explore our dynamic keynote sessions, innovative workshops, and the many opportunities to connect with colleagues from across the field. The **conference app** is the best way to stay up to date on sessions and events — and to engage with fellow attendees throughout the week.

AAS is often described as the “Big Tent,” and we hope the sessions, conversations, and connections you make here support and energize your work long after the conference concludes.

We look forward to a meaningful week with you.



Jenna Baker

Jenna Baker, DPA, MSW, SHRM-CP
Chief Executive Officer
jenna@suicidology.org



Sarah Gadsby

Sarah Gadsby, LCSW
President
boardchair@suicidology.org



America's Center Convention Complex

701 Convention Plaza, St. Louis, MO 63101
(800) 916-8938

Take the virtual tour →



Enjoy Free WiFi

Complimentary internet is available for use in all public spaces and meeting rooms.

1. Open Wi-Fi settings on your device and select **Americas Center**.
2. First time users will be asked to create an account and verify their email.



Lunch will be served daily from 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM, Tuesday, May 19 - Friday, May 22, at America's Center, 100 Complex. (**Pre-conference schedule** on pg. 7.)



Local Eats

- Robie's Restaurant & Lounge (270 ft)
- Aubergine Cafe (450 ft)
- Buddy's Wine Bar & Bistro (0.1 mile)
- Sugarfire Smoke House (0.1 mile)
- Rooster (0.2 mile)



Things to Do

- National Blues Museum (0.1 mile)
- City Garden (0.3 mile)
- Busch Stadium (0.5 mile)
- The Gateway Arch (0.6 mile)
- City Museum (0.7 mile)



Getting Around

- MetroLink (Light Rail)
- MetroBus
- County Cab / Yellow Cab
- Rideshare (Uber & Lyft)

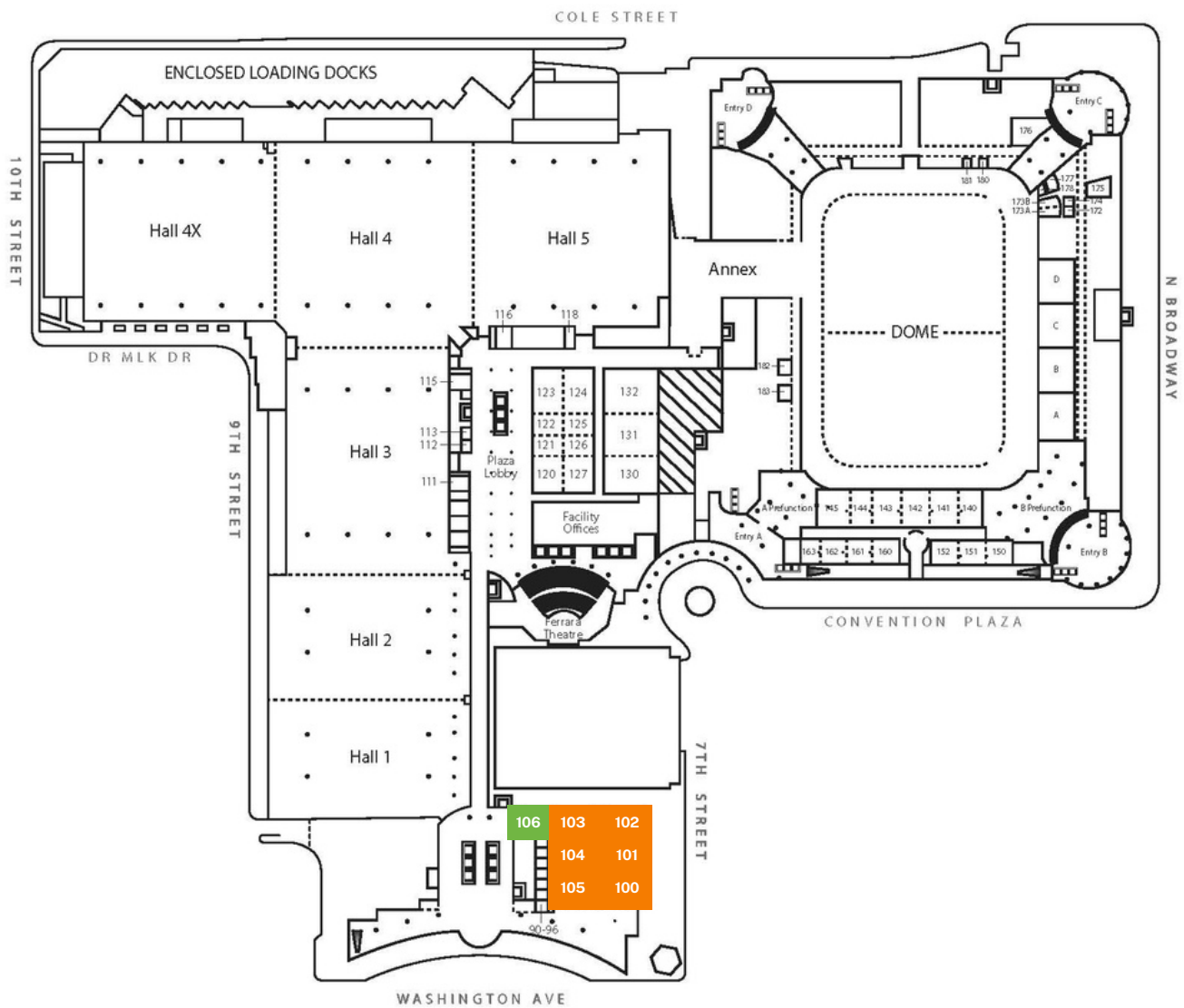


Public Safety

- SSM Health St. Louis Univ Hospital
(314) 257-8000
- Metropolitan Police Department
(314) 231-1212

AMERICA'S CENTER

Convention Complex | Level 1

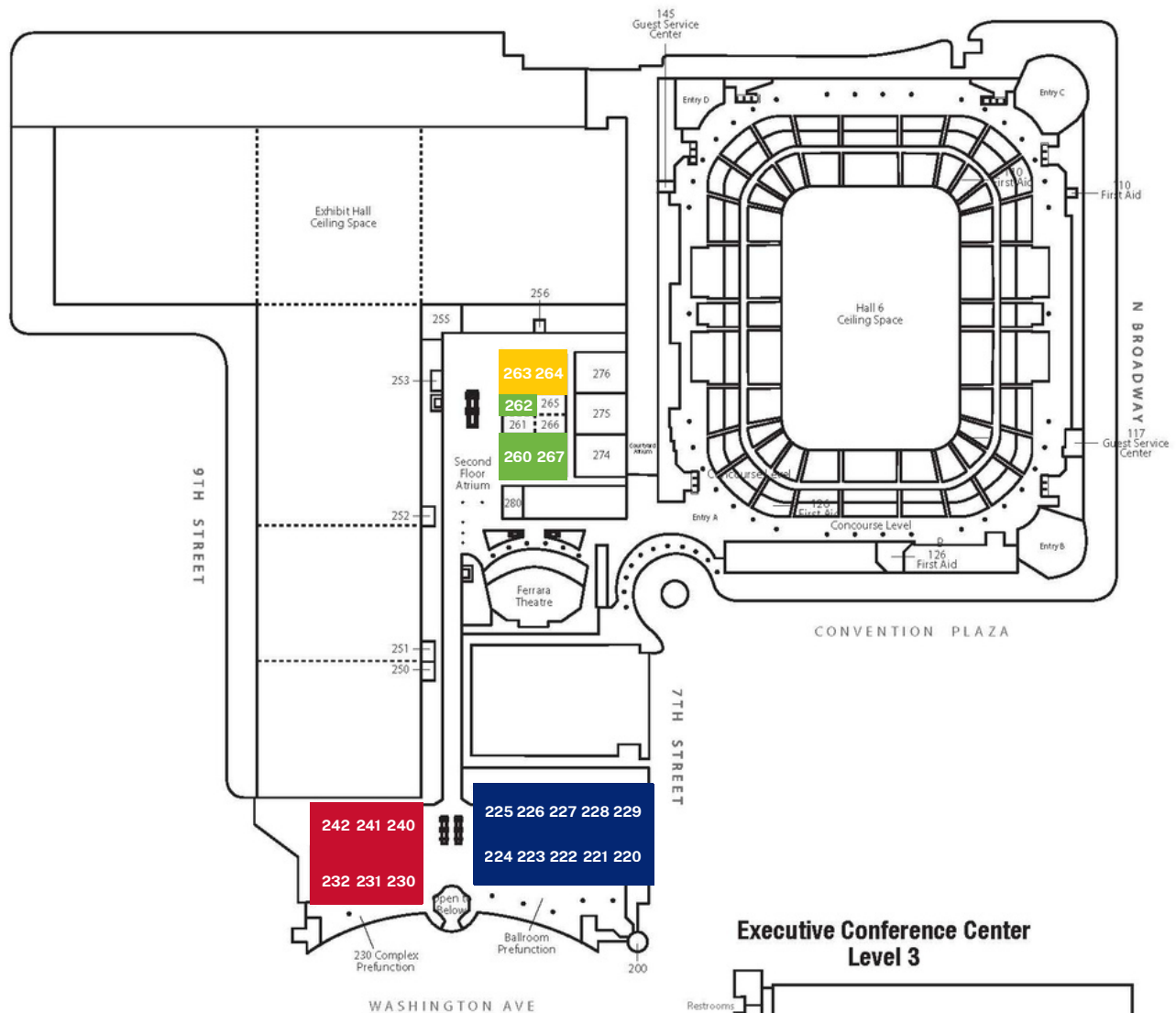


■ Exhibit Hall (100-105)

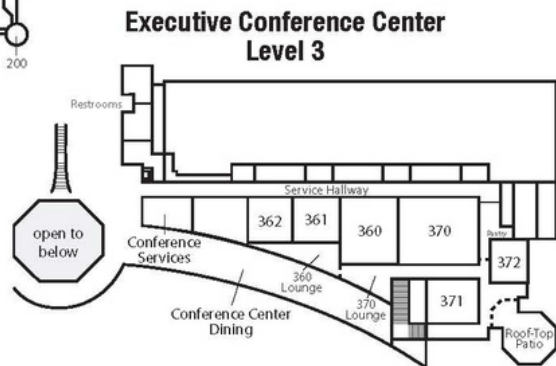
■ Registration / Check-In (106)

AMERICA'S CENTER

Convention Complex | Level 2

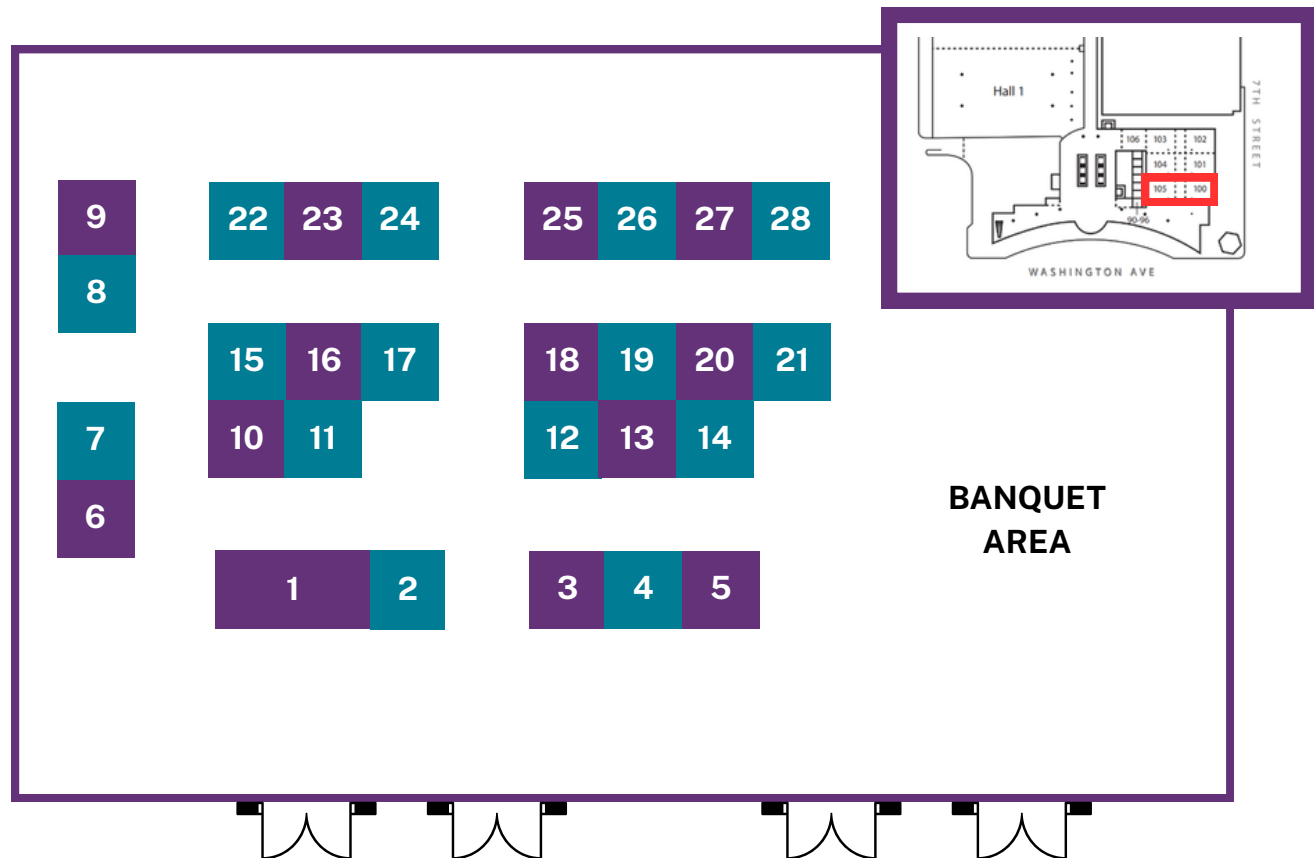


- **Main Ballroom (220-229)**
- **Meeting Rooms (230-232; 240-242)**
- **Meeting Rooms (260, 262, 267)**
- **Wellness Room (263-264)**



AMERICA'S CENTER

Exhibit Hall | Level 1, Rooms 100-105



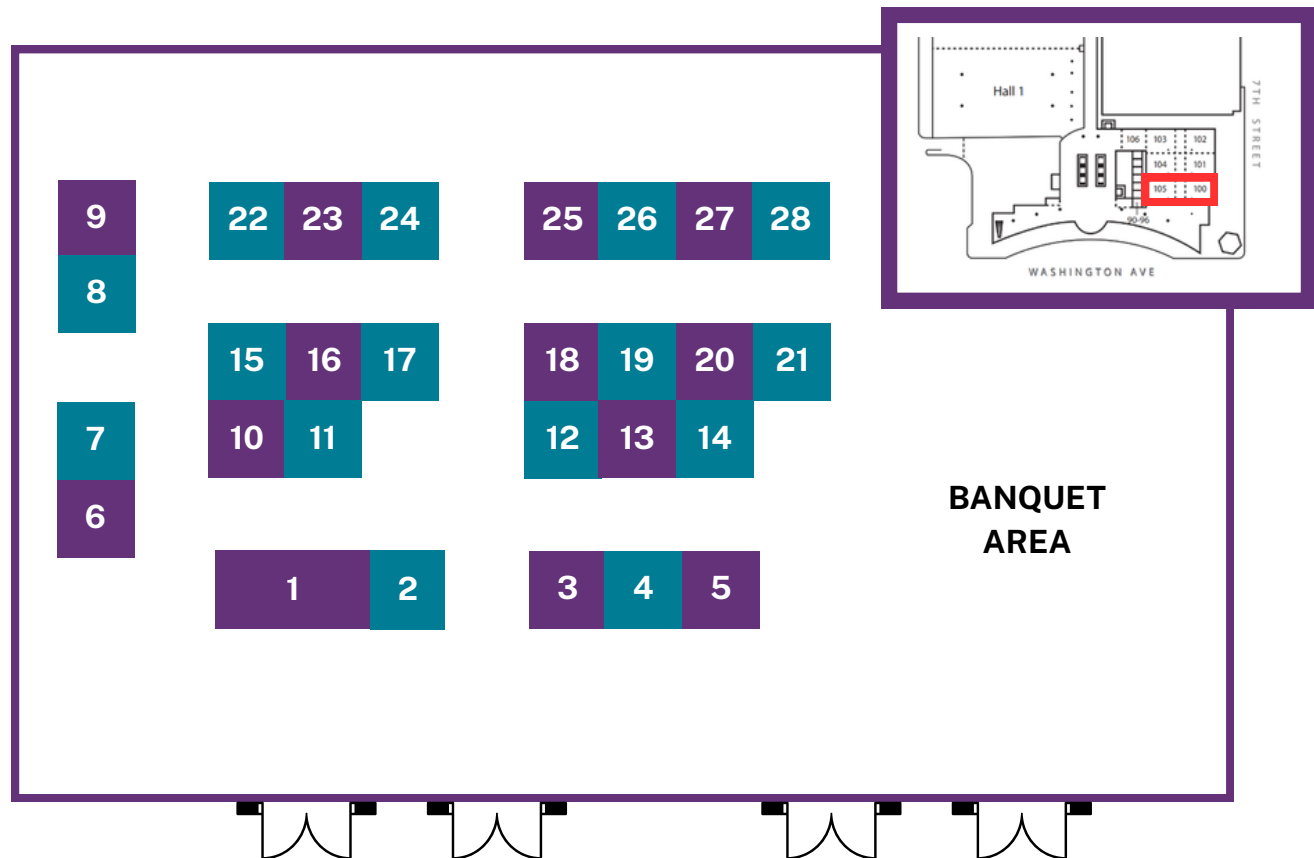
Exhibitors:

22Mohawks..... 6
 Advocates for Human Potential..... 8
 Alliance of Hope for Suicide Loss Survivors..... 11
 American Association of Suicidology..... 2
 AFSP – Missouri Chapter..... 9
 BPD Alliance..... 28
 CIRCE Technology & Research..... 1
 CIT International.....14
 Education Development Center.....19
 Grit Digital Health / Man Therapy..... 26
 iCarol..... 5
 LivingWorks..... 4
 Perimeter Behavioral of Missouri..... 7
 PSA Worldwide..... 22

QPR Institute..... 12
 ReflexAI..... 3
 Rocky Mountain MIRECC..... 27
 SafeSide Prevention..... 16
 Solari Inc.....15
 SOS Signs of Suicide..... 20
 Sources of Strength..... 10
 Suicide Prevention Resource Center..... 17
 Training Institute for Suicide Assessment..... 13
 US Dept of Veterans Affairs Office of Suicide Prevention... 21
 UW Center for Suicide Prevention & Recovery..... 23
 Vibrant Emotional Health/988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline..... 24
 Wellpath..... 18
 What I Would Have Missed..... 25

AMERICA'S CENTER

Exhibit Hall | Level 1, Rooms 100-105



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Marriott St. Louis Grand

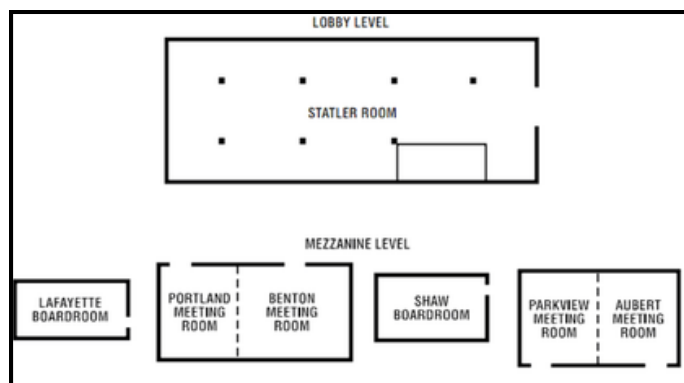
800 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63101
(314) 621-9600

CHECK IN: 4:00 PM

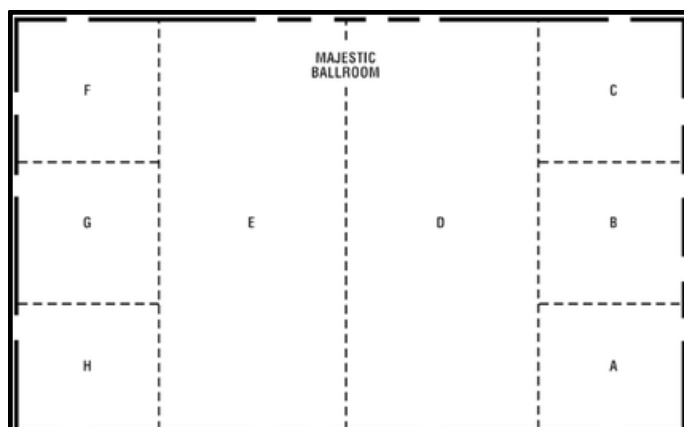
CHECK OUT: 11:00 AM



GRAND TOWER



MAJESTIC BALLROOM, 2ND FL



Lunch Schedule

Sunday, May 17

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Majestic Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Monday, May 18

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Majestic Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Hotel Parking

Self-Parking:

\$40.00/day

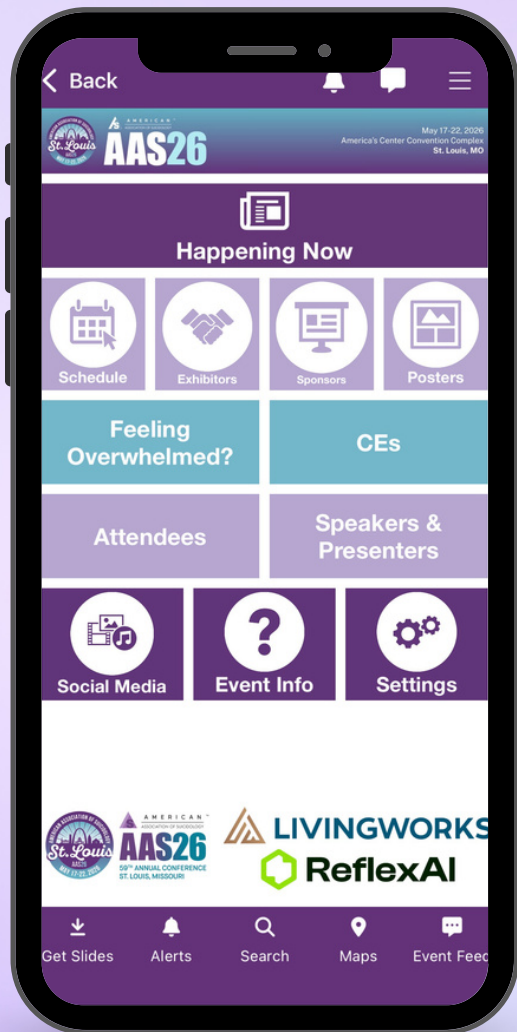
Valet Parking:

\$65.00/day

Self-Parking or Valet does not accommodate oversized vehicles.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Streamline Your Conference Experience



- ✓ Manage Your Schedule.
- ✓ Track CEs.
- ✓ Network with Attendees.

All in one place.



Step 1:

Download **Eventscribe** from the App Store or Google Play.

Step 2:

Open the **Eventscribe** app and search for **AAS26**.

Step 3:

Create an account and login to begin your experience.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Presentation Schedule

Tuesday, May 19 - Friday, May 22

TUE

WED

THR

FRI

Mentors, Collaborators, and Friends – How to Sustain a Career in Suicidology

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Peter M. Gutierrez, PhD

Revisiting Perceived Burdensomeness: Exploring the Role of Contribution to Others

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Ryan M. Hill, PhD

The Missing Link: Why Suicide Prevention Will Fail Without the Workplace

10:15 AM - 11:15 AM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Sally B. Spencer-Thomas, PsyD

Suicide Prevention for All Youth: Culturally Inclusive Approaches

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Ronita Nath, PhD; Sonyia Richardson, PhD, MSW, LCSW

The Importance of Empathy and Connection in Crisis Response

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Steve Miccio, CPRP

The Canyon of Why

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Frank Campbell, PhD, LCSW, CT

Suicide Loss: Grief, Trauma, and Soul Exhaustion

2:45 PM - 3:45 PM | 200 Complex/America's Ballroom - Conference Center

Sarah Gaer, MA

ANNUAL AWARDS

Elevating the Voices in Suicidology

2026 Robert I. Yufit Family Awards

Peter Gutierrez, PhD

Louis I. Dublin Award

Lori Espinosa, LPCC

Loss Survivor Award

Marie Adams, PhD, LP, CCS

Roger J. Tierney Service Award

**Crisis Support Services of
Alameda County**

Crisis Center Excellence Award

Ryan Hill, PhD

Edwin S. Shneidman Award

Sangmi Kim, MSW

Morton M. Silverman Student Award

Eliza Williamson, MEd, MFA, CPS

Transforming Lived Experience Award

**Crisis Jam | Recovery Innovations /
Behavioral Health Link**

Crisis Services Innovation Award

Citizen Scientist Awards

Jessica Gerner, MA

Student Award

Jessica Hamilton, PhD

Professional Award

Paul G. Quinnett Lived Experience Writing Competition



Katalina Gille, 1st Place

*The Falcon, the See-Glass, the
Dog, and...Santa Claus?*



Carrie Badillo, 2nd Place

Tomorrow will be the day I die



Dan Fendley, 3rd Place

When Silence Nearly Killed Me

Scan the QR codes to read the winning submissions.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thanks to Our Generous Sponsors and Committees

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Missouri Suicide Prevention Network

Keynote Sponsor

iCarol

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QPR Institute

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AAS27

60TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Hyatt Regency Dallas

PRE-CONFERENCE April 11-12

CONFERENCE April 13-15

HASL SUMMIT April 15
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

GALA April 15
6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

For more information, visit:
suicidology.org/conference

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THE KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY DSW ONE MOVE CLOSER TO ADVANCING YOUR CAREER

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- Nonprofit director
- Leadership positions in health care
- Management careers in human services
- Researcher

**Two courses per term, three terms per year, and in-person weekend-long residency each term.*



For those seeking an MSW degree, KU's program is fully online or in person offering a family-in-environment perspective, an executive schedule and Advanced Standing status.



Questions?

Department of Social Work

Ph: 610-683-4235 | E: svistova@kutztown.edu

Office of Graduate Admissions

Ph: 610-683-4200 | E: graduate@kutztown.edu



The Connect™ Program

A comprehensive and flexible model for planning and implementing suicide prevention and postvention best practices.

Services: Training | Train-the-Trainer | Strategic Planning | Consultation

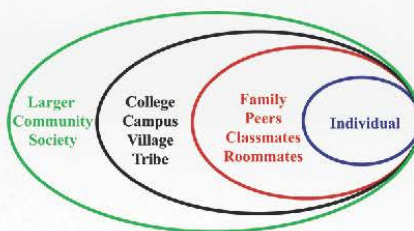
Connect services and trainings can be delivered **in-person at your location** or virtually. **A self-paced eLearning** platform is also available for select trainings.

NAMI NH has extensive experience customizing and tailoring training content and experiences for diverse communities.



Training Professionals & Communities in
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Connect focuses on a comprehensive approach to preventing and intervening in suicide across the lifespan. The program draws on the recommendations of the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention and has become a leading model for both prevention and postvention, providing training and support in 49 states, 2 US Territories, and internationally.



www.theconnectprogram.org

In-Person & Live
Virtual Training



Self-Paced
eLearning



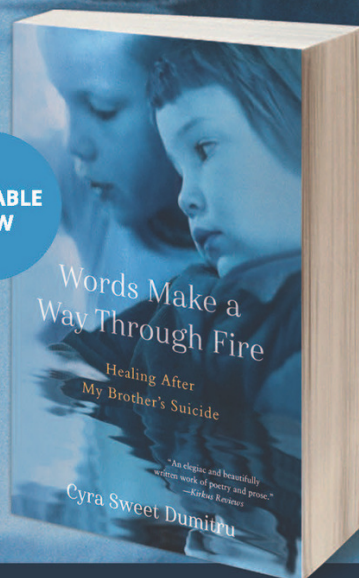
NAMI New Hampshire



Words Make a Way Through Fire

Healing After My Brother's Suicide

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"This memoir will resonate with anyone touched by trauma, whether personally or professionally. It offers particular value to wounded healers, poetry therapists, expressive arts therapists, clinicians working with grief and suicide loss, and those interested in trauma-informed creative practice. . . . Dumitru moves fluidly between intimate detail and a long historical arc, offering a rare longitudinal perspective on trauma and integration."

-Jenna Robinson, MA, LMFT, PTR

For more information about the author, her books or poetic medicine, please visit: www.cyrasweetdumitru.com

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22MOHAWKS

22Mohawks is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on suicide prevention among military veterans and first responders populations with elevated risk due to service-related stress, identity disruption, and social isolation. Based in Sharon, Massachusetts and serving all 50 states, 22Mohawks delivers evidence-informed, purpose-centered interventions that strengthen protective factors during and after service transitions.

Our work is grounded in contemporary suicide prevention research emphasizing meaning, belonging, peer connection, and sustained engagement as critical buffers against suicide risk. Through peer-led and experiential programming, 22Mohawks addresses upstream risk factors by restoring identity, confidence, and community.

Core programs include Pups for Vets & First Responders, leveraging human-animal bonding to support emotional regulation and connection; the Airborne Operations Course & Retreat, an immersive peer-based experience designed to rebuild purpose and camaraderie; and 22Mohawks Performance, which integrates resilience training and performance psychology to support cognitive, physical, and behavioral readiness.

Together, these programs foster durable protective factors that support long-term wellbeing and suicide prevention.

To learn more, visit: **www.22Mohawks.com**



SCAN





Live Conference
Feedback Form



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

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