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What Workplaces Can Do to Prevent Suicide

45th American Association of Suicidology Annual Conference, Hilton Baltimore, Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Workshop #15

Working Minds: What Workplaces Can Do to Prevent Suicide

Faculty: Sally Spencer-Thomas, Psy.D. and Bob VandePol, MSW

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for adults aged 18-40 and fourth leading cause for adults 18-65. Surveys suggest that for each one thousand employees in a given year, 37 will seriously consider suicide, 10 will make a suicide plan and five will attempt suicide.

Three of the five attempts will require medical attention and two of the five will require hospitalization. If you have 50,000 employees, you'll have 1,850 seriously considering suicide, 250 making a suicide attempt, 100 of those hospitalized for the attempt, and about seven, most tragically, will die by suicide.

Consider that those 50,000 employees are also closely connected with family members and loved ones who struggle with suicide in similar proportions and do the math. Keep in mind, too, that suicide can strike anywhere--from the plant floor to the corner offices in the executive suite.

Employees are a company's greatest asset - human capital. Mental and emotional problems are often the root causes of workplace accidents and injuries, presenteeism and time lost to unnecessary health care; they account for large portions of reduced productivity.

Objectives:

By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:

1. Identify dynamics unique to workplace suicide incidents
2. Learn skills to empower managers to lead effectively post-suicide strategies
3. Identify strategies to facilitate return-to-work/return-to-life activities

Sally Spencer-Thomas, Psy.D., Clinical Psychologist and Executive Director of the Carson J. Spencer Foundation

Bob VandePol, MSW, President of Crisis Care Network, a provider of Critical Incident Response Services to the workplace

Conference Brochure

<http://tinyurl.com/7fuhqqj>

American Association of Suicidology (AAS)

www.suicidology.org

International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP)

www.iasp.info



International Association for Suicide Prevention



American Association for Suicidology