



Michigan's largest conference on suicide — the **Kevin's Song 7th Annual Conference on Suicide: Building Roads to a Better Tomorrow** — will be produced in partnership with **Detroit Public Television.**



The three-day conference will bring together educators, mental health professionals, professional trainees and students, business and community leaders as well as loss, and attempt survivors. It will address suicide as a public health crisis to better understand and build pathways to better models of prevention and treatment in order to save lives.

On **Thursday**, the 4th Annual **The School Summit** will focus on youth suicide prevention and which will appeal to educators, mental health professionals and policymakers. Presentations will provide insight into the challenges facing young people today and how we can protect and engage them. Thursday will also mark the first **Professional Trainee and Student Symposium on Suicide** – an intense half-day course on suicide risk factors, prevention and treatment. The program is FREE for professional trainees and students and will provide basic but crucial information about identifying and working with people at risk for suicide. Mental Health Professionals are also encouraged to attend and may obtain continuing education credits.

On **Friday**, the **General Conference** will include an array of powerful presentations that will challenge the conventions of suicide prevention and treatment and encourage attendees to rethink how suicide and risk of self-harm can be better assessed, prevented and treated.

Keynote Presentations include:

- **KEYNOTE PANEL:** A panel of three of the leading experts on suicide and prevention will discuss rethinking suicide prevention and reasons for suicidality in addition to resulting from mental health issues.



Thomas Joiner, PhD,
Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor of Psychology Director, Florida State University Psychology Clinic



Craig Bryan, PhD
Director of Recovery and Resilience, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, The Ohio State University College of Medicine



Bart Andrews, PhD
Vice President of Telehealth and Home/Community Services at Behavioral Health Response in St. Louis

- **988: IMPACT AND CHALLENGES**
Discussing the 988 rollouts, nationally and in Michigan, and will address the resources needed and the anticipated challenges.



Michelle Cornette, PhD,
Suicide Prevention Advocate



Jill Smith,
Common Ground

- **UP ON THE HIGH WIRE – BUILDING MENTAL RESILIENCE DURING TOUGH TIMES.** Examining mental wellness and discussing tools to help employees sustain a passion for life.



Sally Spencer Thomas PsyD,
Suicide Prevention Advocate

- **THE YELLOW ROSE INITIATIVE** A program committed to changing the trajectory of death by suicide of first responders and in communities they serve while working to erase the stigma of asking for help.



Greg Flynn, Chief, West Bloomfield Fire Department

FRIDAY BREAKOUT SESSIONS

DAY 2 MORNING BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- 3A THE IMPORTANCE OF CONNECTION WHEN TREATING A SUICIDAL PATIENT (Part 1) **Gigi Colombini, LMSW**
- 3B PART OF ME WANTS TO DIE: AN INTERNAL FAMILY SYSTEMS APPROACH **Lawrence Wentworth, PhD, LP, ABPP**
- 3C URBAN AND RURAL MEANS RESTRICTION: THE CHALLENGES OF RESTRICTING ACCESS TO LETHAL MEANS IN URBAN AND RURAL COMMUNITIES **Corey Hebner, Trooper, Michigan State Police** and **Alvin Sims, Cease Fire Youth Initiative**
- 3D ALTERNATIVE SETTINGS FOR CARE AND PREVENTION FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS **Travis Atkinson, tbdSolutions, Charene Caraco, Promise Resource Network** and **Dave Pankotai, CEO, Macomb County Community Mental Health**
- 3E NEEDS NOT MET BY MEDICATION AND THERAPY ALONE **Cheryl King, PhD, University of Michigan**

DAY 2 AFTERNOON BREAKOUT SESSIONS:

- 4A THE IMPORTANCE OF CONNECTION WHEN TREATING A SUICIDAL PATIENT (Part 2) **Gigi Colombini, LMSW**
- 4B NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR WORKPLACE SUICIDE PREVENTION – PEER ALLIES AT WORK **Jodi Frey, PhD, LCSW-C, CEAP** and **Sally Spencer Thomas, PsyD**
- 4C RURAL SUICIDE PREVENTION – COLLABORATION, SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES **Kellie Phelps, Cheryl Hieber** and **Kari Granz, Sanilac County Community Mental Health**
- 4D THE RISK OF SUICIDE MORTALITY IN CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS **Afton Hassett PsyD, University of Michigan** and **Mark Ilgen, PhD, University of Michigan and Ann Arbor VA**
- 4E TREATMENT OPTIONS FOR PERSON IN SUICIDAL CRISIS **Lawrence Wentworth, PhD** and **Kristi LaBeau, MA, LPC, NCC**

On **Saturday**, the focus of **Surviving Suicide Program** is on survivors of suicide loss and helping them to cope with their grief following the suicide of a loved one. The program is also for those with a lived experience of a suicide attempt and to help the people that love and support them.

Featured this year will be a compelling presentation from Kevin Berthia and Kevin Briggs, two nationally known champions of suicide prevention and survival, whose message will be inspirational and a source of hope and healing. The day will conclude with a presentation about surviving the grief of suicide loss and facilitated loss support groups for attendees.

Continuing education will be available for Thursday and Friday programs.



Register Now at: www.KevinsSong.org or Scan QR Code

