



[Access the online event!](#)

Suicide Prevention Summit

Raising awareness and hope in the community

Welcome

[2020 Suicide Prevention Summit Program](#)

Suicide Prevention Summit

Thursday, September 17, 2020
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CENTRAL TIME

Increase your understanding of suicide, its prevalence and the risk factors for specific populations, and acquire tools for prevention, assessment and intervention.

An online/virtual event is planned for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Online Conference Benefits

In the interest of Public Health, the 2020 Suicide Prevention Summit will be offered through Internet-based technology.

- No travel or associated travel costs
- Video presentations
- Question and answer sessions
- Valid, diverse and meaningful resources
- UW-La Crosse Continuing Education Units (CEUs) available
- Access recorded event until October 1, 2020

Register today >>>

Log in to the online event >>>

Scholarship information >>>

Who should attend:

Psychologists
Social workers and counselors
Teachers
School counselors
Clergy and pastoral care
Law enforcement officials

Nurses
Paramedics
Medical assistants
Youth leaders
Student service personnel
Interested/affected community members

In partnership:

[La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative](#)

[UW-La Crosse Extended Learning](#)

Suicide Prevention Summit Planning Committee Members

Nicole Balsama, Community Member, La Crosse Dance Centre
Jaimie Basina, CSW, La Crosse County Human Services
Tim Blumentritt, B.S.W., Care Center
Julie Dietz, B.S.N, La Crosse County Health Department
Vicky Gundersen, Community Participant and Parent Advocate
Jeannie Hanley, Ed.D., UW-La Crosse Emeritus
Christine Hughes, M.S.W., UW-La Crosse
Jane Hulke, Community Member
Amy Kuester, CRS, Great Rivers 211
Deb Mahr, R.N., Kaitlin's Table
Jenny Root, CSW, La Crosse County Human Services
Judy Shoults, Community Member
Deb Stelmach, Driftless Recovery Services
Maria Towle, MSW, APSW, SAC-IT, Stein Counseling & Consulting Services LTD
Tim Vodak, Community Member

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2021 Call for proposals

2021 Suicide Prevention Summit: September 2021

- **Proposal deadline: February 19, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.**
- Notification emails will be sent on or before: **March 19, 2021**

Submit your program proposal now for consideration. Programs applicable to all aspects of suicide prevention are welcome. Concurrent sessions are 75 minutes in length. Accepted concurrent session

proposal presenters will receive complimentary registration for the 2021 Suicide Prevention Summit.

Submit your proposal >>>

All submissions must include:

- Title of the presentation
- Abstract, consisting of 75 words maximum, describing the content of the presentation
- Presenter(s) information: name, position title, employer name, culminating degree, degree field or specialty area, full VITA
- Three learning objectives that begin with one of the following measurable verbs: list, describe, recite, write, compute, discuss, explain, predict, apply, demonstrate, prepare, use, analyze, design, select, utilize, compile, create, plan, revise, assess, compare, rate, critique.

Suggested topics:

- Building resiliency
- Cultural considerations with suicide
- Developmental considerations with suicidal idealization from childhood to late in life
- Managing chronic suicidal idealization
- Men and suicide
- Spiritual considerations with suicide
- Stigma and suicide
- Suicide in children
- Suicide in the college age population
- Suicide in the serious persistent mentally ill population

- Veterans and suicide



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Register

[Register here >>>](#)

Summit Fees:

Attendee: on before August 17

\$105

Attendee: August 18 or later	\$135
Student (must present ID at check-in)	\$65
Seniors (Age 62)+	\$65
Military (Active & Veterans)	\$65

Registration fees include [UW-La Crosse CEUs](#) and online conference access until October 1, 2020.

Register today >>>

Scholarships

Scholarships for the 2020 Suicide Prevention Summit have been generously donated by the [La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative](#).

To [apply for a scholarship](#) PDF to the 2020 La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Summit please download and complete the [scholarship application](#) PDF and provide a 250–400 word response to the questions below:

- What is your interest in the topics of mental health and/or suicide?
- What is your current educational/career path and how might it relate to the conference?
- What do you specifically hope to gain from attending the conference (be specific to [conference sessions](#))?

The [application](#) PDF and your responses to the questions should be emailed in an attached document to Jenny Root, 2020 Suicide Prevention Summit Chair, at JRoot@lacrossecounty.org.

[Scholarship](#) PDF priority may be given to survivors, families or those planning to work in the field of mental health or suicide counseling.

Cancellation policy

Substitutions welcome. Full refund less \$25 processing fee two weeks prior to event, no refunds thereafter. Cancellations must be submitted in writing to: ex@uwlax.edu.



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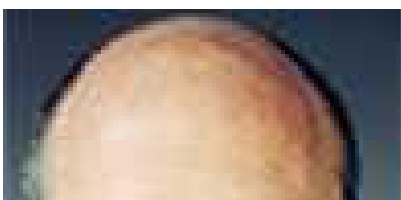
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Suicide Prevention Summit

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Keynote presenters

Morning Keynote Speaker



Thomas Joiner, Ph.D., grew up in Georgia, went to college at Princeton, and received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. He is The Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology at Florida



State University (FSU), Tallahassee, Florida. Dr. Joiner's work is on the psychology, neurobiology, and treatment of suicidal behavior and related conditions. Author of over 515 peer-reviewed publications, Dr. Joiner was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Residency Fellowship. He received the Young Investigator Award from the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression, the Shakow Award for Early Career Achievement from the Division of Clinical Psychology of the American Psychological Association, the Shneidman Award for excellence in suicide research from the American Association of Suicidology, and the Award for Distinguished Scientific Early Career Contributions from the American Psychological Association, as well as research grants from the National Institute of Mental Health, Department of Defense (DoD), and various foundations. The Lawton Professorship, which Dr. Joiner received in 2010, is FSU's single highest honor.

He is a consultant to NASA's Human Research Program, and is the Director, with Pete Gutierrez, Ph.D., of the DoD-funded Military Suicide Research Consortium, a \$30 million project.

Dr. Joiner has authored or edited seventeen books, including *Why People Die By Suicide*, published in 2005 by Harvard University Press, and *Myths About Suicide*, published in 2010, also with Harvard University Press. The book *Lonely at the Top* was published by Palgrave MacMillan in October, 2011, and the book *The Perversion of Virtue: Understanding Murder-Suicide* was published by Oxford University Press in 2014.

Largely in connection with *Why People Die By Suicide*, he has made numerous radio, print, and television appearances, including write-ups in The Wall Street Journal and The Times of London, a radio interview on NPR's Talk of the Nation, and two appearances on the Dr. Phil Show. He runs a part-time clinical and consulting practice specializing in suicidal behavior, including legal consultation on suits involving death by suicide.

Afternoon Keynote Speaker



Stacey Freedenthal, Ph.D., LCSW,

is skilled at treating the full range of clinical issues, from stress management to serious mental illness. She especially has experience working with adolescents and adults who are dealing with issues related to suicide. These issues can include experiencing suicidal thoughts, engaging in self



injury, and recovering from the loss of a loved one to suicide. Many of the people who seek help from her are coping with problems such as major depression, anxiety, trauma, or

borderline personality disorder.

Overall, she has focused her clinical and academic work on suicide risk assessment, prevention, and intervention for the last 20 years. As an associate professor of social work at the University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work since 2005, she has published numerous scholarly articles related to suicide risk and self injury. Freedenthal recently published a book, *[Helping the Suicidal Person: Tips and Techniques for Professionals](#)*. She also has a website dedicated to suicide prevention: www.SpeakingOfSuicide.com.

Stacey Freedenthal earned a master's degree in social work, with a specialization in mental health and substance use treatment, from the University of Texas at Austin. and a Ph.D. in social work from Washington University in St. Louis.



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Concurrent presenters

✕ Bradley Larrabee

Bradley G. Larrabee currently serves as the elementary principal for Northwestern and Iron River Elementary Schools in the School District of Maple. His devoted staff consistently achieve high success through a strategic focus on school culture, meaningful relationships, and trauma sensitive schools. Mr. Larrabee's focus on child development is founded in establishing sustained relationships

between students, families, and staff. Through these relationships student prosocial and academic engagement increase with a decrease in aggressive and maladaptive behaviors. This presentation will focus on how teachers, administrators, and communities can put into place action steps that focus on enriching students' lives to promote resilience to trauma, stress, and pressures of the twenty first century schools.

Mr. Larrabee has taught every age from Pre-Kindergarten through twelfth grade, has served as an elementary and middle school principal and currently focuses on growing tomorrow's leaders as an adjunct faculty with multiple local universities. He looks forward to this mutual learning experience.

✕ Cheryl Killilea

✕ Emily Lindberg, LPC-IT, NCC

Emily Lindberg, LPC-IT, NCC, is a Licensed Professional Counselor–In Training at Behavioral Health Clinic of Wausau and Plover, she is also a Nationally Certified Counselor. She provides treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder for children and adolescents. Emily works directly with educators, medical professionals, occupational therapists, and mental health professionals to provide rounded care for individuals on the Autism Spectrum, as well as those experiencing suicidal ideation. Emily co-leads social skills groups for children and adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other disorders and symptoms that cause social difficulties. Throughout her training, she has gained knowledge in risk assessment, safety planning, and suicidology.

✕ Lisa Smith-Harris, M.S.

Lisa Smith Harris, M.S., is a retired social service professional with 30 plus years of experience in both the private and public sectors. Her experience encompasses working with chronically mentally ill adults, children and families within the Milwaukee Child Welfare system, juvenile justice youth, and the adult prison population. Lisa is founder of Truth Be Told Consulting Services LLC which specializes in providing consultation services to public and private social service organizations in the areas of leadership training and effective team building.

Lisa obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree from Marquette University in 1984 where she majored in social work. She obtained a Master of Science degree in organizational leadership from Marian University in 2018. She anticipates pursuing a Doctorate in Christian Counseling through Colorado Theological Seminary.

Lisa believes that everyone has the ability to contribute to the welfare and wholeness of others. To that end she has devoted herself both professionally and personally to promote and provoke growth, enhancement, and development in those she encounters.

✕ **Margaret Frank, M.A., LPC**

Margaret (Maggie) Frank is a Licensed Professional Counselor with almost nine years of counseling experience. Working at a private practice for many years and now her own practice, she is passionate about helping people find healing, health, encouragement and above all else joy in their lives. Knowing the vast range of challenges that mental health can create for people, she strives to educate not just the individual facing the challenge, but others as well so they can come alongside each other through that time.

Maggie finds encouragement herself in the outdoors, spending times with her family and friends, exploring new cook books and sewing.

✕ **Sara Nelson, M.S.W., LICSW**

Sara Nelson, M.S.W., LICSW is the Assessment and Triage senior clinical supervisor at Wilder Foundation's Community Mental Health Services, focusing on the areas of mental health triage and crisis stabilization. She has over 15 years' experience working with children, adolescents, adults, and families in community and hospital-based settings. She has provided crisis response and assessment to children and adults experiencing suicidal ideation and self-harm behaviors, as well as worked with individuals and families experiencing trauma, abuse, neglect, and medical complications or emergencies. She has served as a liaison to medical staff striving to provide trauma-informed care to patients and families and has trained medical providers on how to respond to escalated behaviors or mental health emergencies. She is trained in Motivational Interviewing, Dialectical-Behavioral Therapy (DBT), Managing and Adapting Practice (MAP), Baptiste Yoga and Mindfulness for Youth, and Trauma-Informed Care.

✕ **Stacey Freedenthal, Ph.D., LCSW**

Stacey Freedenthal, Ph.D., LCSW, is skilled at treating the full range of clinical issues, from stress management to serious mental illness. She especially has experience working with adolescents and adults who are dealing with issues related to suicide. These issues can include experiencing suicidal thoughts, engaging in self injury, and recovering from the loss of a loved one to suicide. Many of the people who seek help from her are coping with problems such as major depression, anxiety, trauma, or borderline personality disorder.

Overall, she has focused her clinical and academic work on suicide risk assessment, prevention, and intervention for the last 20 years. As an associate professor of social work at the University of Denver Graduate School of Social Work since 2005, she has published numerous scholarly articles related to suicide risk and self injury. Freedenthal recently published a book, [*Helping the Suicidal Person: Tips and Techniques for Professionals*](#). She also has a website dedicated to suicide prevention: www.SpeakingOfSuicide.com.

Stacey Freedenthal earned a master's degree in social work, with a specialization in mental health and substance use treatment, from the University of Texas at Austin. and a Ph.D. in social work from Washington University in St. Louis.

✘ **Stacy Desmond, M.S.Ed, LPC**

Stacy Desmond, M.S.Ed., LPC, (she/hers) is on a mission to build understanding of LGBTQ2+ issues and share proven therapeutic techniques. A Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor in WI and MN, Stacy has a unique background in behavioral analysis, therapeutic interventions and communication. She created and facilitates the first LGBTQ2+ student therapy group on The University of Wisconsin Superior campus over the past 4 years. Stacy has firsthand knowledge in the treatment of LGBTQ2+ individuals experiencing suicidal ideation, self-injurious behaviors, major depressive disorder and gender variance issues. Stacy takes a holistic approach when working with clients including the spiritual component of well-being. She works at The University of Wisconsin Superior as a Clinical Counselor. Stacy enjoys embracing nature, mindful meditation, and chasing rainbows.

✘ **Stacy Stefaniak-Luther, PsyD., LPC**

Stacy Stefaniak Luther, PsyD., LPC, is a post-doctoral resident at the Behavioral Health Clinic of Wausau and Plover, she is also a Licensed Professional Counselor. With over 15 years of experience, Dr. Stacy specializes in assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder for individuals of all ages with varied sensory needs and intellectual abilities. She works directly with various care providers serving individuals on the Autism Spectrum. Dr. Stacy leads social skills groups for all ages with Autism Spectrum Disorder and other diagnoses that cause social difficulties. Dr. Stacy completed her dissertation with a topic focus of combining the Interpersonal Theory of Suicide with attachment theory and family systems to assist with clinicians with screening for suicide risk during childhood. She is a member of the American Association of Suicidology and the Autism Society of Greater Wisconsin.

✘ **Susan MacLellan-Tobert, M.D., FACC**

Susan "Sue" MacLellan-Tobert, M.D., FACC, is a board-certified Pediatric Cardiologist who has been in practice for 23 years. She grew up in Edmonton, Alberta and attended medical school at the University of Alberta. Pediatric residency and pediatric cardiology fellowship were completed at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. After fellowship, she entered a small group practice in the Midwest and has been practicing in La Crosse, WI for the past 18 years. Aside from clinical practice, Sue has interest and experience in physician wellness, coaching and teaching. She received her coaching certification through the Physician Coaching Institute, and steer-headed the development of Gundersen Health System's internal physician coaching program. In her personal time, she enjoys gardening, is a hockey mom, volunteers at her local church, is a board member for Adult and Teen Challenge of Western Wisconsin and the La Crosse Country Club, and is a bit of a crazy Canadian. Visit Sue's blog at healingedgecoaching.com.

✕ Timothy Markle

Tim Markle is founder of Forgiveness Factor and contributing writer and speaker with the International Forgiveness Institute. Through Forgiveness Factor, Tim offers courses on How to Forgive in an Unforgiving World and speaks at various conferences and events—especially events with a mental health focus. He incorporates forgiveness into many aspects of mental health, including suicide prevention. Using his own journey, Tim highlights how forgiveness is one of the ways we can stay healthy and help others come out of the darkness.

Expand all



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CEUs

Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are a means of recognizing and recording satisfactory participation in non-degree programs. University of Wisconsin-La Crosse (UWL) awards one CEU for every 10 contact hours in a continuing education experience. Actual contact hours are recorded. **(UWL CEUs: 1.375 or 13.75 contact hours)**

Special online event information: Attendees will be provided access to the online Suicide Prevention Summit from **September 17, 2020 through October 1, 2020**. You will receive CEUs for each session you



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Suicide Prevention Summit

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University UG/GRAD credit

Health Education:

2020 Suicide Prevention Summit Independent Study

September 17–October 22, 2020 (15 hours as arranged)

UW-La Crosse offers 1 undergraduate or graduate credit

University undergraduate/graduate credit is available to Suicide Prevention Summit participants. In addition to assigned coursework, participants must attend the entire program to receive credit. Registration and payment can be made at the summit or by contacting Briana Meuer, bmeuer@uwlax.edu  or 608.785.6513.

HED 495, section 700 (UG)

HED 595, section 700 (GRAD)

Registration Deadline: September 17, 2020

[Syllabus](#) 

This course is designed for participants attending the Suicide Prevention Summit on September 17, 2020. In addition to attending workshops on updated information pertaining to suicide, this course will allow participants to explore how his/her current workplace can collaborate to best support the mental and emotional health of students/clients/patients.

Instructor: [Sarah Pember, Ph.D.](#) 

Registration:


UW-La Crosse [online admission application, credit course registration form](#)  and payment must all be received by deadline of September 17, 2020.

University credit course registration and payment is separate and in addition to [Suicide Prevention Summit registration and payment](#).

[UWL academic credit registration form and online admission application directions.](#) 

To transfer this credit to another program, students must confirm in advance that the credit will be accepted by their degree granting program. No refunds will be made on the basis of inability to transfer credit.

To register for university credit, please contact:

Briana Meuer, Credit Coordinator
608.785.6513 or toll free 1.866.895.9233
bmeuer@uwlax.edu 

Withdrawals:

Any credit withdrawal must be completed by September 21, 2020. After September 21, 2020, you are

financially responsible for tuition payment. Contact Briana Meuer at bmeuer@uwlax.edu or 608.785.6513 for assistance. If you are a Continuing Education student enrolled in one course and decide to withdraw, this is considered a withdrawal from the university. There is a \$50 *withdrawal fee* that will be applied to the student's account. If the withdrawal occurs within the time frame allowable for a refund, the \$50 withdrawal fee will be deducted from the refund.



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attend during that time frame.

- UWL CEUs fulfill continuing education requirements for many professionals, agencies and organizations. Professional associations may have specific licensing requirements. Individuals should contact their licensing association before assuming UWL CEUs will fulfill all requirements.
- UW-La Crosse keeps records of individual CEUs for three years of programming. Certificates are emailed within two weeks of the conclusion of online access to the program. Requests for duplicate CEU certificates are charged a \$15 processing fee. [Request form for duplicate CEU hours & certificates](#)
- UW-La Crosse CEUs included in registration fee.



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In the news

[La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative hosts 13th annual summit](https://www.wxow.com/news/2019/09/18/la-crosse-area-suicide-prevention-initiative-hosts-13th-annual-summit) ~~ Sep 18, 2019 NEWS19
(WXOW.com)

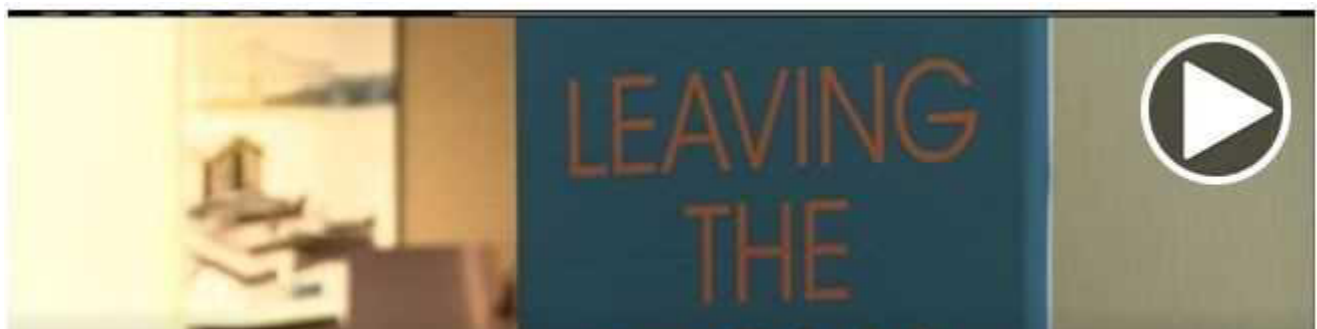




[Suicide Prevention Summit in La Crosse explore causes, solutions](#) ~~ Sep 18, 2019 NEWS8000.com (WKBT)



[Suicide Prevention Summit held in La Crosse](#) ~~ Sep 19, 2018 NEWS8000.com (WKBT)





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