

Register

Scholarships

Agenda

Venue-travel

Keynote presenter

Concurrent presenters

CEUs

Handouts

Suicide Prevention Summit

Raising awareness and hope in the community

Welcome

Suicide Prevention Summit

Wednesday, September 17, 2025 8:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m. **Student Union, UW-La Crosse**

521 East Ave North | La Crosse, WI 54601

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



Registration is open!

View details and register today.

Sponsorship & exhibitor information
2026 Call for proposals
Suicide Prevention Initiative 🔁
Archives



Download the Program

Who Should Attend

HEALTHCARE	EDUCATION	COMMUNITY
Psychologists	School counselors	Law enforcement officials
Paramedics	Teachers	Clergy and pastoral
Nurses	Youth leaders	care
Medical assistants	Student	Interested/affected community
Social workers and counselors	service personnel	members

In partnership:

La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative

UW-La Crosse Graduate & Extended Learning

⊗ Thank you to our planning committee members!

Tim Blumentritt, B.S.W., Care Center

Karlene Buckmaster, CSW, Social Worker, La Crosse County Health Department

Kristine Edwards, Community Member

Christine Hughes, M.S.W., Emplify Health

Amy Kuester, CRS, Great Rivers 211

Vincent Loera, M.S.W., APSW, Mayo Clinic Health System

Lisa Mackey, LMFT, Guest House Counseling

Deb Mahr, R.N., Kaitlin's Table

Jennifer Mueller, LP, Nystom & Associates

Jenny Root, CSW, La Crosse County Human Services

Hallie Schmeling, Great Rivers 211

Maria Towle, M.S.W., LCSW, CSAC, Stein Counseling & Consulting Services LTD

<u>Visit the La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative's website</u> to learn more about their community activity and involvement.

Thank you to our sponsors!















Connecting the university and the community!





Graduate & Extended Learning

205 Morris Hall 1725 State Street La Crosse, WI 54601, USA

Offering programs and services to meet the diverse needs of individuals of all ages!

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Theme 🔅



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Register today!
EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT BY AUGUST 17.

Summit Fees:

Attendee: August 17 or before	\$105
Attendee: August 18-September 16	\$135
Student (must present ID at check-in)	\$65
Seniors (Age 62+)	\$65

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Military (Active & Veterans)

\$65

Registration fees include conference attendance, materials, <u>UW-La Crosse CEUs</u>, refreshments, lunch, and a commemorative item.

Cancellation policy: Substitutions are welcome. A full refund less \$25 processing fee is available up to two weeks prior to event, no refunds thereafter. Cancellations must be submitted in writing to: ex@uwlax.edu.



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Suicide Prevention Summit

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Scholarships

Scholarships PDF for the 2025 Suicide Prevention Summit have been generously donated by the La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative.

To apply for a scholarship PDF to the 2025 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 by August 17, 2025.

- 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 <u>application</u> PDF and and your responses to the questions should be emailed in an attached document to Jenny Root at JRoot@lacrossecounty.org.

Scholarship priority may be given to survivors, families or those planning to work in the field of mental health or suicide counseling.

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Offering programs and services to meet the diverse needs of individuals of all ages!

La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Summit 2025

8:45 a.m.–4:15 p.m. Wednesday, September 17, 2025 Student Union, UW-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI

8–8:45 a.m.	Registration, Continental Breakfast, & Visit Exhibitors	The Bluffs
8:45–9 a.m.	Welcome	The Bluffs
9–10:15 am	Morning Keynote Session A Day in the Life of an Inpatient Psychiatric Unit -Emily Rae, M.D., Psychiatry Co-Department Chair, Emplify Health, La Crosse, WI -Robyn Deyo, M.S.S.W., Inpatient Social Worker, Emplify Health, La Crosse, WI The presenters will describe treatments that can help suicidal individuals, including medications, ECT, TMS, therapy, intensive outpatient programs, day treatment programs, residential treatment programs, outpatient programs and community programs. Additionally, they will discuss involuntary and voluntary treatment and what that entails Learning Objectives:	The Bluffs
10:15 –10:30 a.m.	 Describe the type of programming and treatment that patients can receive on an inpatient psychiatric unit. Attendees will gain an understanding of a voluntary admission and an involuntary admission and what this entails. Attendees will gain an understanding of the community role of an inpatient behavioral health unit. UWL CEUS: 0.125 Break	
10:30–11:45 a.m.	Morning Breakout Sessions	
	Invisible Backpack: From The Powerlessness of Unhealed Trauma to The Power of Resiliency, Hope and Healing —Tracey Atkinson, M.S., Owner, Tracey Atkinson Counseling & Coaching LLC, Janesville, WI Tracey will share her story of childhood sexual abuse and how the negative impacts of this trauma filled her invisible backpack full of cognitive distortions. These distortions ultimately created a path of self-destruction and self-hatred, leading to multiple suicide attempts. Tracey's power of healing led her to become a therapist, an advocate and motivational speaker. Learning Objectives: Tracey will demonstrate how her cognitive distortions, due to her unhealed trauma, directly impacted her functioning. Tracey will discuss how her lack of functioning, due to poor mental health, predicted her behaviors, routines and thinking patterns. Tracey will explain why it is necessary for everyone to have awareness of what is in their invisible backpack in order to learn and implement proper self care. UWL CEUs: 0.125	Rm 3310
	An Elementary Approach to Suicide Prevention - Bradley Larrabee, M.Ed., Principal, School District of Maple, Maple, WI School Based Mental Health - A Structure to Drive Change: In a post pandemic educational system schools throughout the country have noted a dramatic increase in student mental health needs. This increase has come alongside a decrease in students' executive functioning. Historically approached student mental health as a parent's suicide prevention. Learning Objectives: By the end of the session, participants will begin to question their own role in how they interact with students growth and learning of skills to prevent suicidal ideation or self injurious behaviors. In completion of this session, participants will be able to share knowledge of institutional structures for supporting all students' growth and needs beginning in the elementary ages. Educational agencies will become better equipped to evaluate local agencies and resources that can become	Rm 3130

The Power of Resilience: Turning Adversity into Strength -Ancholas Dillon, M.S., LOCK, CSIGC, CSIG Of Believe Wellheis Center, PLC, Prevailece, WI Resilience is the bridge between adversity and strength, emowering includuals to overcome life's challenges. In this preventation, "The Power of Resilience: Turning Adversity into Strength," Nicholas Dillon share his personal journey as a suicide and bullings survivor to illustrate his presental or mey as a suicide and bulling survivor to illustrate how resilience is participants will gain a clear understanding of what resilience is, its role in mental health, and how it acts as a protective factor against adversity, including suicidal ideation. Learn Practical Techniques: Practical parts will acquire actionable strategies to build and strengthen their resilience, including mendiumses practices, rentouring suicides, protection regulation, and leveraging support networks. Foster Community, Resilience: Participants will acquire actionable strategies to build and strengthen their resilience, including mendiumses practices, rentouring suicides, and leveraging support networks. Foster Community, Resilience: Participants will acquire actionable strategies to build and strengthen their resilience, including mendiumses practices, rentouring suicides and promoting mental wellness. UNL CEUs: 0.125 Suicide and Brain Injury: The Risks and the Responses -Robust Ranol, Rhub, Alabyrities Catts/Ryb President, Karol Neuro + Return Committee, Economical Science, and Science and various processional mental to be aware of as well as specific veriables that contribute to heightened likelished of suicide attempts after brain injury. This presentation will cover risk factors and various gigns professionals need to be aware of as well as specific veriables that contribute to heightened likelished among people with brain injury. East and the suicident of the suicident brain injury. East and the suicident of the suicident factor in injury. Describe the increased risk factors and var		collaborative partners in education and prevention.	
### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ### ##		UWL CEUs: 0.125	
Suicide and Brain Injury: The Risks and the Responses -Robert Karol, Ph.D., ABPP/RP, CBIST/R; President, Karol Neuro + Rehab Consulting, Eden Prairie, MN There is an increased likelihood of suicide attempts after brain injury. This presentation will cover risk factors and warning signs professionals need to be aware of as well as specific variables that contribute to heightened likelihood among people with brain injury. The talk will address professional responses when suicide ideation occurs. Learning Objectives: • Explain the risk factors for suicide after brain injury. • Describe the increased risk of suicide after brain injury. • Prepare to respond to a suicidal episode. UWL CEUs: 0.125 Noon—1:30 p.m. Lunch Special Lunch Presentation Moving with Meaning -lennifer TeBeest-Severson, M.A., LPC-IT, R-DMT, Outpatient Therapist, Stein Counseling, Onalaska, WI This presentation helps explore how movement in therapeutic practice offers many benefits for both clients and practitioners. We will experience how mindful movement and somatic practice can be done in different ways to allow for expression and aid in regulation. 1:15–1:30 p.m. Break 1:30–2:45 p.m. Afternoon Breakout Sessions Suffering Out Loud vs. Suffering in Silence: Offering an Operational Distinction Between Chronic Suicidality in BPD Compared to Other Diagnoses -Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W. CEO & Head Facilitator, Validate Mental Health Consultants, Toronto, Ontario, Canada The literature often presents chronic suicidality as a BPD phenomenon; a form of communicating distress. A shift in the operationalization of the term is needed, offering a distinction between chronic suicidality as one mans of garnering social and clinical support, and chronic suicidality as means of garnering social and clinical support, and chronic suicidality as means of garnering social and clinical support, and chronic suicidality on presenting with demonstrative attempts to convey suffering or seek care. Learning Objectives: • Discuss and expand on the idea that		The Power of Resilience: Turning Adversity into Strength -Nicholas Dillon, M.S., LCDC, CSAC; CEO of Believe Wellness Center, PLLC, Pewaukee, WI Resilience is the bridge between adversity and strength, empowering individuals to overcome life's challenges. In this presentation, "The Power of Resilience: Turning Adversity into Strength," Nicholas Dillon shares his personal journey as a suicide and bullying survivor to illustrate how resilience transforms pain into purpose. Learning Objectives: • Understand Resilience: Participants will gain a clear understanding of what resilience is, its role in mental health, and how it acts as a protective factor against adversity, including suicidal ideation. • Learn Practical Techniques: Participants will acquire actionable strategies to build and strengthen their resilience, including mindfulness practices, emotional regulation, and leveraging support networks. • Foster Community Resilience: Participants will explore ways to create a supportive community culture, learning how to recognize and support others in building resilience and	Rm 3314
-Robert Karol, Ph.D., ABPP/RP CBST/R; President, Karol Neuro + Rehab Consulting, Eden Prairie, MN There is an increased likelihood of suicide attempts after brain injury. This presentation will cover risk factors and warning signs professionals need to be aware of as well as specific variables that contribute to heightened likelihood among people with brain injury. The talk will address professional responses when suicide ideation occurs. Learning Objectives: Explain the risk factors for suicide after brain injury. Describe the increased risk of suicide after brain injury. Prepare to respond to a suicidal episode. UWL CEUs: 0.125 Noon-1:30 p.m. Lunch Special Lunch Presentation Moving with Meaning Jennifer TeBeest-Severson, M.A., LPC-IT, R-DMT, Outpatient Therapist, Stein Counseling, Onalaska, WI This presentation helps explore how movement in therapeutic practice offers many benefits for both clients and practitioners. We will experience how mindful movement and somatic practice can be done in different ways to allow for expression and aid in regulation. 1:15–1:30 p.m. Break 1:30–2:45 p.m. Afternoon Breakout Sessions Suffering Out Loud vs. Suffering in Silence: Offering an Operational Distinction Between Chronic Suicidality in BPD Compared to Other Diagnoses -Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W. CEO & Head Facilitator, Validate Mental Health Consultants, Toronto, Ontario, Canada The literature often presents chronic suicidality as a BPD phenomenon; a form of communicating distress. A shift in the operationalization of the term is needed, offering an distinction between chronic suicidality not presenting with demonstrative attempts to convey suffering or seek care. Learning Objectives: Discuss and expand on the idea that chronic suicidality can present in two different ways and should be operationalized as such. Assess chronic suicidality in a more complete and complex		· -	
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Distinction Between Chronic Suicidality in BPD Compared to Other Diagnoses -Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W, CEO & Head Facilitator, Validate Mental Health Consultants, Toronto, Ontario, Canada The literature often presents chronic suicidality as a BPD phenomenon; a form of communicating distress. A shift in the operationalization of the term is needed, offering a distinction between chronic suicidality as a means of garnering social and clinical support, and chronic suicidality not presenting with demonstrative attempts to convey suffering or seek care. Learning Objectives: Discuss and expand on the idea that chronic suicidality can present in two different ways and should be operationalized as such. Assess chronic suicidality in a more complete and complex	1:30–2:45 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Sessions	
 Plan interventions that address the type of chronic suicidality experienced and reduce the stigma placed on BPD and 		Distinction Between Chronic Suicidality in BPD Compared to Other Diagnoses -Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W, CEO & Head Facilitator, Validate Mental Health Consultants, Toronto, Ontario, Canada The literature often presents chronic suicidality as a BPD phenomenon; a form of communicating distress. A shift in the operationalization of the term is needed, offering a distinction between chronic suicidality as a means of garnering social and clinical support, and chronic suicidality not presenting with demonstrative attempts to convey suffering or seek care. Learning Objectives: Discuss and expand on the idea that chronic suicidality can present in two different ways and should be operationalized as such. Assess chronic suicidality in a more complete and complex manner to determine risk level. Plan interventions that address the type of chronic suicidality	Rm 3314

	 K.A.Y.A. Keeping Autistic Youth Alive — Tim Markle, MS, Founder/Director, Forgiveness Factor, Stoughton, WI — Hunter Markle, Self-Advocate, Stoughton, WI One of the core features of Autism Spectrum Disorder is difficulties in social situations and communication difficulties. These can lead people not feeling like they belong and possibly even becoming a burden. We want to look at how we can help autistic youth/young adults to achieve a sense of belonging and a sense of purpose. Hunter is 27 year old autistic who has struggled with belonging, purpose and suicide ideation. Tim is his dad and has worked with families who have neurodivergent children for over 16 years and has had his own struggles with suicide ideation. This session will combine personal experience with professional knowledge to provide insight into how we can help keep autistic, and other neurodivergent youth, alive. Learning Objectives: Apply a lived experience perspective to the scientific knowledge around suicide. Discuss considerations for suicidal ideation in people who are neurodiverse and how warning signs might go unnoticed. Compile a list of possible coping mechanisms that help neurodiverse youth and young adults use to stay regulated. 	Rm 3110
	UWL CEUs: 0.125	
	Surviving a Sentinel Event: Provider Self-Care Following a Patient Suicide	Rm 3130
	 Lisa Howell, Ph.D., Clinical Health Psychologist, Mayo Clinic, Chandler, AZ Many mental health providers will face the loss of a patient to suicide. Estimates show that providers have a 50/50 chance of having a patient suicide during their career (Plankum and Tillman, 2016). Psychologists are more likely to die by suicide than any other profession (DeAngelis, 2011). This demonstrates the need for support following a sentinel event. 	
	Learning Objectives:Describe risk to personal mental health following a patient	
	 suicide. Identify 2 ways to improve self-care following a patient suicide. Create a self-protection plan for the future. 	
	UWL CEUs: 0.125	
2:45–3 p.m.	Ethical Care & Decision-Making in Suicide Assessment & Intervention - Tara Allert, Ed.D., LPC, SAC, ACS, Behavioral Health Consultant, Emplify Health, La Crosse, WI In this presentation, we will review current research related to suicide prevention. Additionally, we will explore comprehensive assessment and intervention strategies emphasizing the integration of ethical principles and importance of clinician wellness in this work. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of evidence-based tools for assessment as well as frameworks for intervention to support suicide prevention. Learning Objectives: Describe key factors that influence suicide based on current research. Identify evidence-based assessment and intervention strategies to support ethical care. Develop a plan to improve clinician wellness and ethical patient care. UWL CEUs: 0.125 Break	Rm 3310
3–4:15 p.m.	Afternoon Keynote Session LGBTQIA+ Mental Health and Suicide	The Bluffs
	 Jennifer Mueller, Ph.D., Clinical Site Director, Licensed Counseling Psychologist, Nystrom & Associates, La Crescent, MN This presentation will review language often used to discuss gender and sex. It will review various mental health and suicidality risk factors LGBTQIA+ youth, adults, and older adults. It will also review local and national crisis resources. Learning Objectives: Identify at least three risk factors impacting the mental health of the LGBTQIA+ communities. Identify at least three factors that impact the suicidality rates of the LGBTQIA+ communities. 	

4:15 p.m.	Adjourn	The Bluffs
	LGBTQIA+ communities. UWL CEUs: 0.125	
	 Identify one regional and one national resource for the 	



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8:45 a.m.-4:15 p.m.
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Student Union, UW-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI

8–8:45 a.m.	Registration, Continental Breakfast, & Visit Exhibitors	The Bluffs
8:45–9 a.m.	Welcome	The Bluffs
9–10:15 am	Morning Keynote Session A Day in the Life of an Inpatient Psychiatric Unit -Emily Rae, M.D., Psychiatry Co-Department Chair, Emplify Health, La Crosse, WI -Robyn Deyo, M.S.S.W., Inpatient Social Worker, Emplify Health, La Crosse, WI The presenters will describe treatments that can help suicidal individuals, including medications, ECT, TMS, therapy, intensive outpatient programs, day treatment programs, residential treatment programs, outpatient programs and community programs. Additionally, they will discuss involuntary and voluntary treatment and what that entails Learning Objectives: Describe the type of programming and treatment that patients can receive on an inpatient psychiatric unit. Attendees will gain an understanding of a voluntary admission and an involuntary admission and what this entails. Attendees will gain an understanding of the community role of an inpatient behavioral health unit.	The Bluffs
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0:15 –10:30 a.m.	Break	
l0:30-11:45 a.m.	Morning Breakout Sessions	
	Invisible Backpack: From The Powerlessness of Unhealed	Rm 3310

Trauma to The Power of Resiliency, Hope and Healing



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Wednesday, September 17, 2025 | 8:30 a.m. -4:15 p.m. Student Union, UW-La Crosse, La Crosse, WI

Hotel Room Block

There are a limited number of rooms for the night of September 16 reserved at:

Hampton Inn & Suites

511 Third Street La Crosse, WI 54601

You may book online or call 608.791.4004 to reserve a room. When calling reference **Suicide Prevention Summit** to receive the special rate.

Room rates:

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• \$98, per night + tax

Rates do not include sales or room tax. Cut off date for reservations is August 21, 2025.

Please refer to the hotel website or contact them directly for check-in and check-out times, services and amenities, directions, parking/shuttle service, and other hotel information.



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608.785.6500



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Keynote presenter

Emily Rae, M.D.



Emily Rae, M.D.

Psychiatrist, Co-Department Chair, Emplify Health

Emily Rae, M.D., has worked as a psychiatrist at Gundersen Health System for 21 years. She completed medical school at the University of Minnesota and did her psychiatry residency and child/adolescent psychiatry fellowship at Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Emily has worked on the inpatient psychiatry unit at Gundersen throughout her career.

Robyn Deyo, M.S.S.W.

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Robyn Deyo, M.S.S.W.
Inpatient Behavioral Health Social Worker, Emplify Health

Robyn L Deyo, M.S.S.W. has worked at Emplify
Health/Gundersen Health System for the last 12 years as an in-patient behavioral health social worker. She has primarily worked with the adolescent population during this time.
During her time at Gundersen, she has also worked on the adult behavioral health unit and in the emergency room. She gained her undergraduate degree at University of Wisconsin-La Crosse and her masters at Southern New Hampshire University.

❷ Jennifer TeBeest-Severson, M.A., LPC-IT, R-DMT



Jennifer TeBeest-Severson, M.A., LPC-IT, R-DMT
Outpatient Therapist
Stein Counseling

Jennifer TeBeest-Severson, M.A., R-DMT, LPC-IT, works as an Outpatient Therapist at Stein Counseling in Onalaska, WI, where she focuses on integrating movement as a psychotherapeutic tool in mental health interventions for clients of all ages. Jen seeks to share the powerful connection between movement and mental health, and how it benefits clients and practitioners to enhance the mind-body connection for optimal mental health and self awareness.

⊗ Jennifer Mueller, Ph.D.



Jennifer Mueller, Ph.D.

Clinical Site Director, Licensed Counseling Psychologist, Nystrom & Associates

Jennifer Mueller, Ph.D., is a psychologist working in the La Crosse region for more than 20 years. She specializes in working with people who are dealing with a variety of concerns that are disrupting their life including anxiety,

depression, grief, adjustment, abuse/trauma, and relationship concerns. As a member of World Professional Association for Transgender Health, some of Jennifer's clinical work is focused on issues related to sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender dysphoria. As a Midwest woman who strongly dislikes the cold, I'm quite content under a blanket with my cats beside me reading a book or playing games with my family.



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☒ Tara Allert, Ed.D., LPC, SAC, ACS

Tara Allert, Ed.D., LPC, SAC, ACS, is a clinical therapist with broad experience and special interest working with addiction and trauma. She has training in TF-CBT, FFT, EMDR, CBT, and other modalities. Whether working with individuals or families, Tara's approach is to enter from a place of curiosity, and believes that each client or system has the inherent strengths and qualities needed to step into growth.

⊗ Tracey Atkinson, M.S., LPC

Tracey Atkinson is a Licensed Professional Counselor and Life Coach in the State of Wisconsin. She has been working in the mental health field for over 15 years. Tracey has worked in settings such as an inpatient hospitalization facility, outpatient mental health clinic, mobile crisis, contracted position in a school setting and has worked collaboratively with local police and sheriff departments, emergency rooms, jails, and

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with a local Children's Advocacy Center. She specializes in trauma work and has presented at multiple mental conferences on trauma.

❷ Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W

Valéry Brosseau, M.S.W, was born in Montréal, Canada and she has always been a writer. She is also a passionate speaker and mental health advocate. She writes to express, release and connect. She has always said that her goal is to write something that means something to somebody. She began volunteering in the mental health field in 2013, winning awards for her volunteer work and developing a strong passion for mental health advocacy and awareness. In 2019, she delivered a TEDx talk on the stigma surrounding suicide. She has also written for organizations such as the National Alliance for Mental Illness and the International Bipolar Foundation. Valéry's goal is to start honest conversations about mental health. She now delivers talks and workshops, equipping companies and organizations with the tools and language to support others and manage their own mental health.

⊗ Nicholas Dillon, M.S., LCDC, CSAC

Nicholas Dillon, M.S., LCDC, CSAC, is a top Milwaukee motivational speaker, coach, and teacher who helps people and companies reach their goals. With Master's degrees in Adult Education and Counseling, plus deep knowledge in behavioral psychology, he brings strong insights to personal and professional growth.

His 20+ years of work has made him an expert in leadership and professional development. As a Certified Master Facilitator and Executive Coach in Milwaukee, he uses smart methods to build leadership skills in others. He creates positive change through one-on-one coaching, group workshops, and speaking at events in many business areas.

Nicholas uses a complete training method that joins emotional smarts with leadership skills. His sessions give clients the tools to lead with care, build confidence, and stay strong - helping them go beyond their goals in work and life.

As a <u>speaker</u>, Nicholas gets everyone's attention with his ideas about personal growth and leadership. His great work in business and community leadership has earned him many awards, including the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award.



Through his work in Milwaukee, Nicholas Dillon helps many people grow and succeed. His skill in corporate leadership and professional development makes him a trusted guide who brings real change to the coaching field.

Lisa Howell, Ph.D.

Lisa Howell, Ph.D., is a Clinical Health Psychologist at Mayo Clinic Arizona since
December 2023. She is the Clinical Health Division Chair for this organization as well as
an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine and
Science. Dr. Howell completed her Post Doctoral Fellowship at Mayo Clinic in
Rochester, Minnesota. Dr. Howell is certified as a Clinical Health Psychologist. Dr.
Howell is active in research and has over 18 speaking engagements and 17
publications. Dr. Howell now resides in Chandler, Arizona with her husband, 15-year-old
stepdaughter, and 6-month-old son. She enjoys gardening, yoga, and cooking.

Robert Karol, Ph.D., ABPP/RP, CBIST/R, is President of Karol Neuro + Rehab Consulting providing program development consultation, staff training/development, case consulting with organizations, behavior management consultation, career management, presentations and workshops. He has also been President of a group private practice specializing in counseling for persons with acquired brain injury and neuropsychological evaluations. He is past Director of hospital-based brain injury programs and Director of Psychology/Neuropsychology, and also Vice President of Brain Injury Services for a provider of long-term care and an Adjunct Professor. He is Board Certified in Rehabilitation Psychology. He has published four books and a number of journal articles.

Bradley Larrabee, M.Ed.

Bradley G. Larrabee, M.Ed has embarked on a career journey focused on reaching all students. In his work as a mental health professional, special education teacher, professor, principal and presenter Bradley had developed programmatic frameworks, professional skills, and a passion for ensuring that every student is able to feel welcome and supported in our schools. This path ensures that all students are safe to learn and grow within our schools.

Hunter Markle

Hunter Markle is an autistic young adult who also has some mental health challenges. He is currently working part-time. He enjoys sharing his experience of transitioning into the adult health care system and keeping mentally well. Hunter has presented at the National Federation of Families Conference, Children Come First Conference, Circles of Life Conference, the PATCH program, and has been on numerous panels.

Timothy Markle, M.S.

Tim Markle is founder and director of Forgiveness Factor. Forgiveness Factor exists to promote forgiveness as a way to live mentally well. Tim teaches classes, workshops, seminars and speaks about forgiveness, suicide prevention, and addiction recovery in Wisconsin, nationally, and internationally. He regularly partners with Stoughton Health and Stoughton Senior Center to teach a 6-week course on Freedom Through Forgiveness. A frequent guest on podcasts, Tim can also be heard Tuesday mornings on Life 102.5 FM in Madison. He is a speaker and contributing writer for the International Forgiveness Institute. In July of 2022, Tim was presented with the Healing Hearts Hero Award at the International Agape Love and Forgiveness Conference for "his years of commitment to helping others learn about the virtues of self-forgiveness and interpersonal forgiveness." Tim has been married to Tracy for 29 years and they have two children. Time and Tracy currently live in Stoughton, WI..

- <u>forgivenessfactor.org</u>
- <u>internationalforgiveness.com</u>



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ex@uwlax.edu

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UWL CEUs



UW-La Crosse 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. (0.5 **CEUS/5 Contact Hours when attended in full.)**

- You must attend the Suicide Prevention Summit in its entirety to earn UW-La Crosse CEUs.
- 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.

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- 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.
- UW-La Crosse CEUs are included in registration fee.



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Presenters may provide handouts at their discretion. Documents will be posted as they are received. You will be prompted for the password (provided in your registration confirmation email) to access the information.

Access handouts here



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Important information regarding the sale of published items:

Follett Bookstore has exclusive rights to sell published books, DVDs, and CDs on the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse campus. Please contact UWL Graduate & Extended <u>Learning</u> to request the sale of any published items.

Sponsorship fees:

Summit sponsorships offer marketing opportunities that provide increased visibility to attendees. Currently, we are planning for an in-person event. Please register and submit your logo by August 26, 2025 to be included in conference materials. Consider the following levels of sponsorship to match your goals and budget:

Sponsor Registration

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	In person event
\$2,000+ Gold Sponsorship	 Brief description of your organization in conference folder Mention on the Suicide Summit homepage Logo in the event program One registration that includes lunch and refreshment breaks Up to two, 6-foot tables for exhibit space
\$1,000 Silver Sponsorship	 Brief description of your organization in conference folder Mention on the Suicide Summit homepage Logo in the event program One registration that includes lunch and refreshment breaks One 6-foot table for exhibit space
\$500 Bronze Sponsorship	 Brief description of your organization in conference folder Mention on the Suicide Summit homepage Logo in the event program One registration that includes lunch and refreshment breaks

Exhibitor fees:

Exhibitor Registration

In-person event

\$100**	
Exhibitor	

- One registration that includes lunch and refreshment breaks
- One, 6-foot table for exhibit space

Exhibition hours are 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Wednesday, September 17, (includes setup/teardown time). Electricity hook-up is NOT guaranteed.

**Financial assistance may be available for exhibitors. Please contact *Jenny Root, 2025*Suicide Prevention Summit Conference Chair, for details: jroot@lacrossecounty.org.

Cancellations

- **Exhibitors:** Substituions are welcome. A full refund less \$25 processing fee is available until August 17, 2025, no refunds thereafter. Cancellations must be submitted in writing to, ex@uwlax.edu.
- Sponsors: All sponsorships are final, refunds will not be provided.



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Suicide Prevention Summit: September 2026

- Deadline for concurrent presentation submissions: February 22, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. **Central Time**
- Notification emails will be sent on or before: March 22, 2026

Submit Your Proposal

Programs applicable to all aspects of suicide prevention are welcome. Keynote and concurrent sessions are 75 minutes in length. Accepted concurrent session proposal presenters will receive complimentary registration for the 2026 Suicide Prevention Summit.

All submissions must include:

- Title of the presentation
- Abstract, consisting of 75 words maximum, describing the content of the presentation

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- 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

Submit Your Proposal



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Theme 🔅



La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative Our Mission

The La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative (SPI) is committed to promoting awareness that suicide is a public health problem that is preventable.

***This website is not a crisis line. Please see our disclaimer at the bottom of the page for more information on immediate assistance.

Learn More about SPI





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Donate

Donations help us to continue and increase our ability to raise awareness and provide education to our community.

Donate

Attend Our Meetings

Where: La Crosse County Health and Human Services Building; 300 4th St N La Crosse (currently meeting both in person and virtually)

When: First Thursday of the month, 3:00 to 4:30 PM (unless otherwise noted)

Request Meeting Link

Volunteer

We are always looking for volunteers to help us run our events and programming. For more information, submit a volunteer request form.

Volunteer Request

Community Happenings

See what's going on in the community related to mental health/suicide awareness, education, and prevention, including events and projects put on by the La Crosse Area Suicide Prevention Initiative.



Want to Learn More About Suicide?

What is suicide? What are the warnings signs? How do you prevent suicide? What are common myths surrounding suicide? What are the current statistics on suicide rates? Hear personal stories from suicide attempt survivors.

Learn More about Suicide



Disclaimer

THIS WEBSITE IS NOT A CRISIS LINE. IF YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE MAY BE SUICIDAL, OR IN THE CASE OF ANY EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL ONE OF THE FOLLOWING RESOURCES FOR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE:



Great Rivers 211 Information & Referral and Crisis Line —> dial 211

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline —> dial or text 988

Crisis Textline —> text home to 741741

Click on the images below to visit their webpage





CRISIS TEXT LINE

YOUR LIFE MATTERS ♥ YOUR LIFE MATTERS ♥ YOUR LIFE MATTERS ♥

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SPI, PO Box 231, Onalaska, WI 54650

CONTACT US