



# pennsylvania

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

You are invited to participate in the Department of Human Services' (DHS)

### STATEWIDE POSITIVE APPROACHES & PRACTICES MEETING

Jointly hosted by

#### **The Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP)**

*The Department of Human Services' (DHS) Office of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS) and the Office of Developmental Programs (ODP) host a quarterly Statewide Positive Approaches & Practices Meeting. This meeting aims to provide the most recent research and resources for people with mental health and behavioral challenges, intellectual disabilities, autism, and other developmental disabilities to live an everyday life.*

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**DATE: Friday, October 21, 2022**

**Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm**

#### **TOPIC: SUICIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION**

#### **SESSION DESCRIPTIONS**

##### **Suicide Prevention and Awareness Panel**

Join representatives from leading organizations in suicide prevention and awareness in Pennsylvania. Each panel member will provide an overview of their organization and available resources and supports available to the general population. The session will conclude with a time for panel questions. Panel participants include:

##### Jana Marie Foundation

- The mission of Jana Marie Foundation is to harness the power of dialogue and creative expression to spark conversations, build connections and promote the mental well-being among young people and their communities.

##### Aavidum

- Aavidum is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that empowers youth to shatter the silence surrounding depression, suicide, and other issues facing teens. The word Aavidum, which means "I've got your back," was created by students after a classmate died by suicide. Aavidum inspires schools and communities to adopt cultures of care and advocacy, encouraging all members to have their friends' backs. Aavidum exists in elementary schools, middle schools, high schools, and colleges across the nation.

##### Prevent Suicide PA

- The mission of Prevent Suicide PA is to support those affected by suicide, provide education, awareness, and understanding by collaborating with the community to prevention suicide, and reduce the stigma associated with suicide.

American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP), Western PA Chapter

- The mission of AFSP is to save lives and bring hope those affected by suicide. AFSP is a voluntary health organization that gives those affected by suicide a nationwide community empowered by research, education, and advocacy to take action against this leading cause of death. AFSP is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, including those who have experienced a loss.

**Suicide Prevention and Intervention for Autistic Individuals**

There is limited research on prevalence and risk factors of suicidality among individuals with Autism as well as on best practices to suicide risk assessment and intervention with this population. This presentation will synthesize existing research and identify gaps in the literature, as well as provide practical recommendations for mental health professionals serving autistic youth and adults.

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**AGENDA**

9:00 am:	<b>Welcome and Announcements</b> Gregory Cherpes, MD, Medical Director, ODP
9:15 am – 12:00 pm:	<b>Suicide Prevention and Awareness Panel</b> <u>Introduction</u> Amy Kabiru, MSW, LSW, BCBA, Clinical Consultant, OMHSAS
9:15 am – 9:45 am	<u>Jana Marie Foundation</u> Marisa Vicere
9:45 am – 10:15 am	<u>Aevidum</u> Francesca Pileggi
10:15 am – 10:45 am	<u>Prevent Suicide PA</u> Erich Batra, MD and Matthew Wintersteen, PhD
10:45 am – 11:15 am	<u>American Foundation of Suicide Prevention, Western PA Chapter</u> Lee Wagner
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	<u>Panel Q&amp;A</u> Facilitated by Perri Rosen, PhD and Amy Kabiru, MSW, LSW, BCBA
12:00 – 1:00 pm:	<b>Lunch</b>
1:00 – 2:45 pm:	<b>Suicide Prevention and Intervention for Autistic Individuals</b> Perri Rosen, PhD, NCSP, Consulting Psychologist, OMHSAS Amy Kabiru, MSW, LSW, BCBA, Clinical Consultant, OMHSAS
2:45 pm:	<b>Survey</b>
2:50 pm:	<b>End of Day Reflection</b>

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**TO REGISTER:** <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8862704061282919181>

***Please note that Certificates of Attendance are not issued for the Statewide Approaches and Positive Practices Meetings.***