



SUICIDE PREVENTION, INTERVENTION AND POSTVENTION

AUGUST 11-12, 2023
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

1720 BURLINGTON DR - STE A
CONFERENCE ROOM 104
BISMARCK ND 58504



Why do people kill themselves? How do I ask someone if they are feeling suicidal? What do I do if they say they ARE suicidal? How do I deal with the strong emotions suicide generates? This course will provide answers to these and other questions many crisis interventionists have about suicide. It will provide participants with basic information about suicide as well as help participants develop practical skills for prevention, intervention and postvention. Small group role plays will allow participants to apply the suggested techniques as they are learned. This course is open to anyone who wishes to learn more about intervening across the suicide spectrum. Professionals from the fields of Business & Industry Crisis Intervention, Disaster Response, Education, Emergency Services, Employee Assistance, Healthcare, Homeland Security, Mental Health, Military, Spiritual Care, and Traumatic Stress may all benefit.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Common myths about suicide
- Risk factors for suicidal behavior
- Frequent motivations for suicide
- Problem-solving methods
- Effective intervention strategies
- Elements of effective postvention
- Elements of survivor grief
- Community referral sources
- "Mini-lecture" on suicide
- Feelings and reactions of suicide survivors



ABOUT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Denise J. Thompson, LCSW, received a BSW from Wartburg College, a MSW from Florida State University and is a doctoral student at the University of Northern Iowa. Maj. Thompson is currently Chief, Behavioral Health for the Air Force Reserve Command. She is responsible for the implementation and oversight of the following AFRC programs: Suicide and Violence Prevention, Post-Suicide Review, Critical Incident Stress Management, and Operational and Post-deployment Stress. She has over 11 years of military service, including active duty and reserve service. Maj. Thompson provides oversight and training for over 180 AFRC personnel, military and civilian, who are part of the AFRC CISM team. Prior to her current assignment with AFRC, she was in private practice providing services to adults and children who were affected by traumatic events, was a contract provider for the Veterans' Administration and was an Employee Assistance Program provider for the US Postal Service. Maj. Thompson presents on a variety of topics for military and civilian personnel regarding suicide prevention, intervention and postvention; workplace violence; Critical Incident Stress Management; and operational stress management.