

The Uniting for Suicide Postvention (USPV) podcast series was developed in collaboration with the American Association of Suicidology (AAS) to improve awareness and understanding of suicide postvention.

Suicide postvention is an organized response that occurs after a suicide loss, designed to support those exposed and impacted by the suicide.

Podcast episodes feature a range of topics relevant to suicide postvention including: how to support suicide loss survivors; the importance of including suicide postvention in every workplace; and ways in which suicide postvention can help foster healing after suicide.



The USPV podcast series is available here:
<https://www.mirecc.va.gov/visn19/postvention/share.asp#Podcasts>

Postvention 101 features Dr. Jack Jordan who lays a foundation for understanding: what suicide postvention is; what it entails; who it is for; and, why it is an essential part of a comprehensive suicide prevention plan.

Experiencing a Suicide Loss: Family and Friends features Dr. Nina Gutin as she guides listeners through the lived experiences of family members and friends after a suicide loss. She explains common feelings and reactions of both those impacted by the loss and those around them, and how to provide and seek support for oneself or loved ones, including children and adolescents.

Experiencing a Suicide Loss: Professional Caregivers features Drs. Nina Gutin and Vanessa McGann discussing the experience of losing a patient or loved one to suicide as a professional caregiver. They highlight why suicide postvention is beneficial and necessary for professional caregivers and provide recommendations on how to seek support.

Postvention Practices for the Workplace features Dr. Sally Spencer Thomas as she breaks down the need for and role of suicide postvention in the workplace. In this episode, she provides recommendations for: how to put a suicide postvention plan in place; who within a workplace should be involved; and, where listeners can access workplace suicide postvention resources.

Postvention Practices for Mental Health Centers and Private Practices features Dr. Larry Berkowitz and Eliza Jordan Dolan, LICSW sharing their experiences consulting for, participating in, and implementing suicide postvention in a variety of mental health settings. They discuss recommendations and resources for developing and fine-tuning a suicide postvention process to best serve mental health providers and supervisors impacted by suicide loss.

Postvention Practices for Medical Settings features the experiences of Drs. Jeff Sung and Michael Myers in carrying out suicide postvention processes and providing suicide postvention training for employees of all levels within medical settings. They provide guidance for how to be prepared should a suicide loss occur in a medical setting and recommendations of best practices to support employees and patients alike.

Postvention Practices for Military Settings features Kim Ruocco, Vice President of [TAPS](#), and Dr. Maggie Guglielmi, of the Stratton VA, who are leaders in providing suicide postvention for those who are military connected or a part of the Veteran community. They discuss cutting edge recommendations for how to establish and utilize suicide postvention teams and peer support for these unique populations.

Managing Legal and Ethical Considerations after a Suicide Loss features Dr. Vanessa McGann and Skip Simpson, JD discussing how legal implications fit into suicide postvention for clinicians. They provide recommendations on how to manage confidentiality and liability questions that may arise after a suicide loss in a manner that is ethical, legal, and helpful to personal and professional healing.

Postvention Practices for Crisis Responders features Greg Hughes, LICSW and Joi Sabrina Gay, LPC of the Veterans Crisis Line (VCL). In this episode they provide background on the VCL to highlight its role in suicide prevention and suicide postvention. They discuss components of suicide postvention specifically for crisis lines and agencies they work with, along with recommendations for how to implement and establish a crisis line suicide postvention team.

Postvention Practices for Schools features postvention expert, Stan Collins, as he discusses the role of suicide postvention in school settings. The episode provides recommendations that are appropriate for students, teachers, and administrators and offers considerations for tailoring suicide postvention to best meet the needs of a given school community.

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