

DIVISION OF SUICIDE PREVENTION



Postvention Community of Practice

For each suicide, it is estimated that 135 people are impacted, with over 50% of the population experiencing at least one suicide loss. Suicide loss survivors experience higher rates of anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts and behaviors. Additionally, individuals experience increased stigma and guilt surrounding the loss. Postvention is a collaborative approach to support individuals who have experienced a loss due to suicide. Postvention addresses the healing process, negative effects of suicide loss, and helps prevent additional suicides.

Goal of the CoP

The Postvention CoP is a concerted effort to support those impacted by suicide loss across Wisconsin.

Target audience

The Postvention CoP is designed for individuals representing community-based organizations, local and state health departments, healthcare facilities, mental health professionals, school personnel, grief and bereavement specialists, faith leaders, funeral directors, support group facilitators, and individuals interested in learning about, developing, and strengthening postvention supports within their community. Members are welcome at any stage of their postvention knowledge and programming journey.

Benefits

Members will have the opportunity to:

- Share and exchange resources, knowledge, and expertise related to postvention support
- Formalize processes and structures for communities to provide postvention support
- Identify possible funding mechanisms for starting and sustaining programming
- Identify equitable postvention practices, including modifications or additions in support for individuals/communities not traditionally served by postvention programming (e.g. minoritized groups-LGBTQ+, people with disabilities, BIPOC, non-English speaking)

Expectations

Learning opportunities and discussion topics will be responsive to members' needs. Members will meet from **12-1pm on the first Thursday of each month**, starting in September 2023. The first meeting will be a shorter, introductory meeting to address any questions and confirm interest. To maintain an active and robust community of practice, members should attend and actively participate in at least 75% of the CoP's meetings. Members should be prepared to contribute to CoP discussions by sharing resources, asking questions, or sharing their own knowledge.

If you are interested, please complete this short form at: https://mcwisc.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1ObCUjN6AzFKolg.

Any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to Tricia Monroe, Postvention Coordinator at the Medical College of Wisconsin at (414) 955-7660 or pmonroe@mcw.edu.