Please join us for the 7th Annual National LOSS Team Conference

(This conference will be held in lieu of the Spring Annual Survivors of Suicide Day Conference for 2017)

Strength in Numbers: Engaging the Community in Suicide Postvention

This conference is an opportunity for Suicide Loss Survivors, as well as others from the community, to learn more about suicide postvention (support after a suicide), and the Active Postvention Model known as LOSS (Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors).

To learn more about this conference, please visit lossconference.gbump.com

● Special Survivor Rate! (includes lunch)

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

● Frank Campbell, PhD, LCSW
  Developer of the LOSS Team model

● The Survivor's Journey – Survivor Panel Discussion

● Stuart Smith, MA, LPC
  Clinical Coordinator of The Link Counseling Center

Stuart will be offering a special afternoon session on Monday, April 24th, specific to Survivors of Suicide, to deepen and expand their understanding of grief related to loss by suicide. This is a workshop you won’t want to miss!
On Saturday, February 11th, EMPACT-SPC held its annual 5K Walk/Run to Support Survivors of Suicide, the 11th anniversary of this special event. Close to 700 people were in attendance, including Survivors of Suicide, EMPACT-SPC staff, and community partners such as the Arizona Suicide Prevention Coalition and Cenpatico Behavioral Health. Local businesses, such as Starbucks and Einstein Bagels, donated food and beverages to help support EMPACT-SPC and the Survivors of Suicide program.

This annual event has been one way that survivors can honor their loved ones who have died by suicide, as well as a way EMPACT-SPC can raise community awareness about suicide prevention. For more information about upcoming Survivors of Suicide events, or to see photos of this year’s Walk/Run, please visit www.empactsos.org
On a rosebush full of blooms, there is occasionally one rose more fragile than the rest. Nobody knows why. The rose receives the same amounts of rain and sun as its neighboring blooms; it receives the same amounts of water and food from the earth, of clipping and tending and gentle encouragement from the gardener. Its time on earth is neither more nor less significant than that of the other blooms alongside it. Its stresses are neither greater nor fewer. Its promises of development are just as rich. In other words, it has all the necessary components to become what it is intended to be: a beautiful flower, fully open, spreading its petals and fragrance and color for the world to see.

But for some inexplicable reason, once in a while a single rose doesn’t reach maturity. It’s not the gardener’s fault. It’s not the fault of the rose. For some roses, even the touch of the gentle spring rains leaves bruises on the petals. The sun’s rays – so soft and warm to some flowers – feel searing to others. Some roses thrive while fragile ones feel buffeted by inner and outer ghost winds.

So it is that sometimes, despite the best growing conditions, the best efforts of the gardener, and the best possibilities and predictions for a glorious blooming season, a particularly fragile rose will share its glow for a while, then fade and die. And the gardener and the rosebush and the earth and all around grieve.

We are never ready for a loss; not for the loss of a promising rosebud, not for the loss of a friend or relative whose life appears ready to unfold with brilliant color and fulfillment. In the midst of our grieving, we can remember and celebrate the glimpses of color and fragrance and growth that were shared. We can love the fragile rose and the fragile soul for the valiant battles won and the blooming that was done. And as our own petals unfold, we can remember the softness and beauty of those who touched us along the way.

Reprinted from Survivors of Suicide Loss, Fresno Survivors of Suicide Loss, Inc., Fresno, CA Volume IX, Issue 2: February 2006
The Unsolved Heart

By Ranier Maria Rilke

I want to beg you, as much as I can, to be patient toward all that is unsolved in your heart and to try to love the questions themselves like locked rooms and like books that are written in a very foreign tongue.

Do not now seek the answers, which cannot be given you because you would not be able to live them.

And the point is to live everything.

Live the questions now. Perhaps you will then gradually, without noticing it, live along some distant day into the answer.

Reprinted from “Mayday” Batavia IL, Oct. 2005

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SOS Memorial Quilts

We have begun working on the 8th Quilt. If you are interested in having your loved one appear on this next quilt, please email the following information to:

Sandra.McNally@LaFrontera-Empact.org

- A picture or pictures of your loved one that you want to use on the quilt.
- Full name of your loved one.
- Dates of your loved one’s birth and death.
- A message you would like included – it can be anything but needs to fit on an 8” x 8” square with the picture (s).
For more information, contact:

Sandra McNally, Prevention Manager
EMPACT-SPC
618 S. Madison Drive
Tempe, AZ 85281
Phone: 480-784-1514, ext. 1219
E-mail: Sandra.McNally@LaFrontera-EMPACT.org

Resources:

Crisis/Suicide Hotlines:
● La Frontera Arizona/EMPACT-SPC:
  480-784-1500
● National Lifeline Network:
  800-273-TALK
● Mercy Maricopa Crisis Hotline
  800-631-1314

Internet Resources:
● American Association of Suicidology:
  www.suicidology.org
● American Foundation of Suicide Prevention:
  www.afsp.org

Your Partner for a Safe, Strong, and Healthy Community.

29th Annual Healing After Suicide Loss Conference
SATURDAY, APRIL 29TH ● Hyatt Regency downtown Phoenix

A one-day conference for Survivors of Suicide, sponsored by the American Association of Suicidology (AAS)

● Frank Campbell and Iris Bolton—Plenary Speakers

Registration Information: www.suicidology.org

(If AAS has adequate funding, scholarships will be provided to individuals requesting assistance. Scholarships are for Survivors of Suicide and will cover registration fees only. If you are in need of scholarship assistance, please visit www.suicidology.org and click on the conference link. In the registration packet, you can download and complete the Scholarship Request Form. Scholarship Request Forms must be received no later than March 24th, 2017 for consideration.)

The Survivors of Suicide Program at EMPACT-SPC will be participating in this event; however, please be advised that we are not hosting this event. Therefore, we will not be handling registrations for the event nor processing of scholarships. Thank you.