

NEBRASKA STATE SUICIDE PREVENTION COALITION



Welcome to another issue of the [Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition](#) newsletter! We encourage you to forward this to friends and colleagues by clicking on the link at the bottom of the page.

We hope you find this informative and that you enjoy the stories we've included this issue. As always, check out our [website](#) for more information.

Spotlight: Brandi Gettert



We would like to extend a warm welcome to Brandi Gettert, the new Military Outreach and Suicide Prevention Coordinator. Brandi moved from Columbus, Georgia to beautiful Nebraska this year. With her husband who is an active duty member of the Nebraska Army National Guard, Brandi has lived in Georgia, Kentucky, and New York. She has traveled a long way from her hometown of Jackson, Tennessee!

"My husband is from Inman, NE and he always wanted to raise our family here. I have loved Nebraska since my first visit here in 2002," Brandi said.

With Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention, Brandi will be working on improving quality of life for reintegrating service members and their families specifically. She will also work with children affected by military life and growing a resource base. Brandi is fresh off of some spectacular work-related successes and will be helping us with suicide prevention and education.

"I worked with the Nebraska National Guard as a Family Readiness Support Assistant for the 92nd Troop Command serving approximately 2600 service members and their families. That has been my greatest honor and success to date," Brandi said.

Brandi also states writing as a passion and reads "extensively on whatever strikes [her] fancy." Brandi enjoys travelling and intends to learn more languages.

In This Issue

[Spotlight: Brandi Gettert](#)

[AAS Releases 2009 Suicide Data](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[LOSS Conference Date Information](#)

[45th Annual AAS Conference](#)

Upcoming Events

February 20 | 6:50-8 p.m.
Survivors of Suicide Loss -
Kearney Support Group

February 21 | 7-8 p.m.
Norfolk Emotional Support
Group

February 23 | 2-3:30 p.m.
Brown Bag Session focusing on
suicide in Indian Country

February 28 | 7-8 p.m.
Omaha Emotional Support
Group

February 28 | 7-8:30 p.m.
Exploring Eight Critical
Questions [Program](#)

February 29 |
A "Companioning" Philosophy of
Caregiving [Workshop](#)

For more detail and a full listing
of our upcoming events visit the
NYSPP website:

[NYSPP Calendar](#)



"I am a people person and never meet a stranger," Brandi said.

Feel free to contact Brandi at:

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AAS Releases 2009 Suicide Data

The AAS calculated that 1 person every 14.2 minutes tried to kill themselves in 2009. This disturbing statistic continues the recent rate increases after long-term trends of decline.

Suicide is the third leading cause of death among 15-24 year old people after automobile accidents and homicides. In total, 36,909 Americans successfully committed suicide with an estimated 922,725 non-fatal attempts. For each male attempt, three females attempted suicide.

Nebraska was ranked 45 of 51 states (including the District of Columbia), below the national rate. Nebraska's rate of deaths by suicide (per 100,00) was 9.5 whereas the national rate came in at 12.0.

The data released continues to summarize the figures for 2009, dividing the statistics based on age, gender, region, and general numbers. Find complete figures and statistics [here](#).



Save the Date!
Second Annual
LOSS Conference:
"Reaching Out to Survivors
Across the LifeSpan"
Thursday May 31 - Friday June
1, 2012
Lincoln, NE
Check the [website](#) for updates!

45th Annual AAS
Conference
"Collaborations in
Suicidology: Bridging the
Disciplines"
From April 18th-21st, the 45th
Annual American Association of
Suicidology (AAS) will be held
in Baltimore, MD. You can
register for the conference
online [here](#).

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