International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day gathering scheduled for November 21

October 27, 2020 - 9:49am

The UC San Francisco Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, along with the Contra Costa Crisis Center and the Greater San Francisco Bay Area chapter of the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), will host a morning of reflection, discussion, and support on Saturday, November 21, 2020, for International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day [2]. Registration for the event is now available at psychiatry.ucsf.edu/survivorday [1].

Survivor Day was created by an act of Congress in 1999 and since then has been sponsored and supported by AFSP. This year, in response to the limitations on in-person gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic, AFSP has organized more than 170 virtual meetings [3] for attendees throughout the United States and around the world.

Like all Survivor Day events, this year’s San Francisco area event is free and open to the public. Faculty and staff members from UCSF, the San Francisco VA Health System, and the Contra Costa Crisis Center will moderate small group discussions for attendees to share their experiences and ask questions.

For many loss survivors, attending a Survivor Day event is an opportunity to discover that they are not alone in their experience of losing someone they know and love to suicide. In addition, most gatherings will include a screening of an AFSP-produced documentary for and about suicide loss survivors, as well as information about local support groups and other resources.

Advance registration [1] is highly encouraged for planning purposes, but last-minute registration will also be available on the day of the event.
About AFSP

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention [4], the nation’s largest suicide prevention organization, is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. AFSP creates a culture that’s smart about mental health through education and community programs, develops suicide prevention through research and advocacy, and provides support for those affected by suicide. Led by CEO Robert Gebbia and headquartered in New York, and with a public policy office in Washington, D.C., AFSP has local chapters in all 50 states with programs and events nationwide. Learn more about AFSP and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following them on Facebook [5], Twitter [6], Instagram [7], and YouTube [8].

About UCSF Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences

The UCSF Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences [9] and the Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute are among the nation’s foremost resources in the fields of child, adolescent, adult, and geriatric mental health. Together they constitute one of the largest departments in the UCSF School of Medicine and the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences, with a mission focused on research (basic, translational, clinical), teaching, patient care, and public service.

UCSF Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences conducts its clinical, educational, and research efforts at a variety of locations in Northern California, including Langley Porter Psychiatric Hospital and Clinics [10]; UCSF Medical Centers at Parnassus Heights, Mission Bay, and Mount Zion; UCSF Benioff Children’s Hospitals in San Francisco [11] and Oakland [12]; Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center; the San Francisco VA Health Care System; UCSF Fresno; and numerous community-based sites around the San Francisco Bay Area.

About the UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences

The UCSF Weill Institute for Neurosciences [13], established by the extraordinary generosity of Joan and Sanford I. "Sandy" Weill, brings together world-class researchers with top-ranked physicians to solve some of the most complex challenges in the human brain.

The UCSF Weill Institute leverages UCSF’s unrivaled bench-to-bedside excellence in the neurosciences. It unites three UCSF departments?Neurology, Psychiatry, and Neurological Surgery?that are highly esteemed for both patient care and research, as well as the Neuroscience Graduate Program, a cross-disciplinary alliance of nearly 100 UCSF faculty members from 15 basic-science departments, as well as the UCSF Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases, a multidisciplinary research center focused on finding effective treatments for Alzheimer’s disease, frontotemporal dementia, Parkinson’s disease, and other neurodegenerative disorders.

About UCSF

The University of California, San Francisco [14] (UCSF) is exclusively focused on the health sciences and is dedicated to promoting health worldwide through advanced biomedical research, graduate-level education in the life sciences and health professions, and excellence in patient care. UCSF Health [15], which serves as UCSF’s primary academic medical center, includes top-ranked specialty hospitals [16] and other clinical programs, and has affiliations
throughout the Bay Area.