



# Understanding the Connection Between Suicide and Substance Abuse



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## *A Two-Part Webinar Series*

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### **Audience**

SAMHSA substance abuse prevention and mental health services grantees working to prevent substance abuse and/or suicide

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### **Part 1. Understanding the Connection Between Suicide and Substance Abuse: What the Research Tell Us**

**Date:** September 11, 2014

**Time:** 2:00 p.m. EDT/1:00 p.m. CDT/12:00 p.m. MDT/ 11:00 a.m. PDT

**Duration:** 90 minutes

Substance abuse and suicide are critical public health issues affecting millions of people annually. It is clear that these two issues are closely related—but how can practitioners work more effectively, across disciplines, to address them? This webinar will examine current research findings that explore the connections between substance abuse and suicide,

highlighting in particular factors that contribute to both problems and can be addressed in a coordinated way.

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## **Part 2. Mobilizing Partnerships and Resources to Address Substance Abuse and Suicide**

**Date and Time:** TBA

**Duration:** 90 minutes

Growing awareness of the connections between substance abuse and suicide has motivated many states and communities to begin looking for ways to better align their efforts to address these problems. But effective collaboration—particularly across disciplines—takes planning and preparation. This webinar will explore the essential ingredients of effective collaboration, highlighting some of the innovative ways practitioners are working together to prevent substance abuse and suicide.

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### **Webinar Series Facilitator**

**Chuck Klevgaard** is a Resource Team Coordinator for SAMHSA's Center for Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT).

### **Introductory Remarks**

**Richard T. McKeon, PhD, MPH** is Chief of the Suicide Prevention Branch, Center for Mental Health Services, SAMHSA. As Branch Chief, Dr. McKeon oversees all branch suicide prevention activities, including the Garrett Lee Smith State/Tribal Youth Suicide Prevention and Campus Suicide Prevention grant programs, the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Native Connections grant program, the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention Implementation grant program, and the Suicide Prevention Resource Center.

### **Webinar Series Presenters**

**Craig T. Love, PhD** is the Chief of Epidemiology for SAMHSA's CAPT. He has more than 30 years of experience evaluating, researching, and providing training and technical assistance related to behavioral health, specifically within tribal communities. Dr. Love serves on the tribal suicide response team in his home community.

**Laurie Davidson, MA** has managed programs supporting state, local, and college alcohol and other drug use and abuse prevention, mental health promotion, and suicide prevention since 1998. Currently, she manages programs at SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Resource Center to assist health and behavioral health organizations improve suicide care and reduce suicides.

**Maria Valenti, PhD** is an epidemiologist for SAMHSA's CAPT, providing data-related technical assistance to states and tribes on substance abuse prevention.

**Questions?**

If you have any questions, please contact Colleen Wyatt, Project Coordinator for SAMHSA's CAPT, at [CWyatt@edc.org](mailto:CWyatt@edc.org).

These webinars will be archived and available to all after the conclusion of the series.

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