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### **American Association of Suicidology Announces New Executive Director**



After an exhaustive nationwide search, The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) is pleased to announce the appointment of Colleen Creighton, MA, as its Executive Director.

Colleen brings 15 years of experience in growing and leading national nonprofit foundations and expertise in creating innovative partnerships. Her previous work in advocacy at various levels of government, engaging both federal representatives and agencies, promises to bring substantial value to AAS's national efforts in suicide prevention.

"The board and I are excited to have Colleen as the head of the AAS team. Her leadership and nonprofit management expertise are vital to the organization as we build on the foundations built by our members," said AAS President, Julie Cerel, PhD.

"Colleen offers AAS an entrepreneurial spirit, which will guide the organization and the field of suicide prevention to reach new audiences and populations in ever more effective ways," said AAS Chairman Anthony Wood. "She brings experience from the larger prevention field, strengthening the agency's commitment to outcomes-based public health approaches in suicide prevention," says Wood.

"I'm honored to be joining the American Association of Suicidology at such a pivotal time," Creighton said in a statement. "AAS has an incredibly powerful reputation, a wonderful and dedicated staff, and a diverse and engaging membership. I am dedicated to combining a personal passion for this cause with more than 15 years in leading nonprofit foundations to help AAS grow as an organization. Together we can work to bring suicide prevention to the forefront of our national public health dialogue and expand its rightful place as a national priority."

The AAS Board extends its gratitude to Amy J. Kulp who has served as Interim Executive Director since 2015 and who will continue in her previous role as Deputy Director.

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**About AAS:** Founded in 1968 by pioneering Psychologist Dr. Edwin S. Shneidman (1918-2009), AAS is based in Washington DC, it promotes suicide prevention as a research discipline, public awareness programs, public education and training for professionals and volunteers. The membership of AAS includes mental health and public health professionals, researchers, suicide prevention and crisis intervention centers, school districts, crisis center volunteers, survivors of suicide loss, attempt survivors, and a variety of lay persons who have in interest in suicide prevention. You can learn more about AAS at [suicidology.org](http://suicidology.org).

**For the Media:** Responsible reporting on suicide, including stories of hope and resilience, can prevent more suicides. Please visit [Reporting on Suicide](#) for more information