



Healing After Suicide Loss: Postvention for Providers

Target Audience: Mental health clinicians

Instructional Level: Introductory

Course Description: Suicide postvention, the organized response that occurs after a suicide loss, is an essential element of a comprehensive suicide prevention approach. By providing immediate and ongoing support to those impacted by a suicide loss, suicide postvention policies and practices serve an important function in reducing risk and promoting healing after suicide. Despite its importance, many providers report a lack of suicide postvention education and awareness. This presentation will describe the widespread impact of suicide loss, including the impact of suicide loss on providers. Recommendations and resources to assist providers in developing and/or enhancing suicide postvention practices will be offered.

Learning Objectives:

At the end of this course, participants will be able to:

1. Describe why suicide postvention processes are critical to a comprehensive suicide prevention approach.
2. Discuss the impact of suicide loss on providers.
3. List suicide postvention resources.

Date and Time: January 13, 2026, from 11 am – 12 pm CT

Duration: 1-hour workshop (*1 CE available*)

Where: Zoom

Training Cost: No Fee

Meet the Presenters

Erin Higgins, LCSW, LAC, Social Worker,
Rocky Mountain MIRECC for Suicide Prevention



Erin Higgins is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Addictions Counselor, having received her MSW from Boston University. She joined the Rocky Mountain MIRECC in 2020 after a decade of clinical and leadership experience in VA substance use and mental health treatment settings. She currently serves as the Postvention Lead and is a consultant for the Suicide Risk Management Consultation Program (SRM). Her clinical interests include suicide postvention, the intersection of substance use disorders with suicide risk, and using technology to improve suicide risk screening and interventions.

The presenter has no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Meredith Sears, PhD,
Rocky Mountain MIRECC for Suicide Prevention



Meredith Sears, Ph.D., is a clinical psychologist at the Rocky Mountain Veterans Affairs (VA) Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center (MIRECC) for Suicide Prevention. She also serves the VA as a consultant with the VA's Suicide Prevention 2.0 Dialectical Behavior Therapy Training Program. Prior to joining the MIRECC, Dr. Sears was a direct service provider specializing in suicide prevention and DBT with the San Francisco VA Healthcare System.

The presenter has no conflicts of interest to disclose.

Special Accommodations

If you require special accommodations due to a disability, please contact the STRONG STAR Training Initiative at admin@strongstartraining.org one week prior to the workshop so that we may provide you with appropriate service.

Continuing Education

The STRONG STAR Training Initiative offers attendees 1 Continuing Education (CE) Credits for participating in the 1-day training. Participants who attend are eligible to receive 1 CE Credits. Inquiries regarding CE may be directed via email to admin@strongstartraining.org.

Our continuing education credits have historically been recognized by most professional state licensing boards. However, this is not guaranteed. Please check with your licensing board for verification.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Cancellation

For cancellations or additional information, *please contact the STRONG STAR Training Initiative at admin@strongstartraining.org*

Training Agenda

Please note this agenda time is based on **Central Standard Time Zone**

11:00 am - 11:10 am	Introduction: What is Postvention?
11:10 am - 11:30 am	Impact of Suicide Loss
11:30 am - 11:50 am	Postvention Resources for Providers
11:50 am - 12 pm	Closing and Q&A