Suicide rates are on the rise nationally, with recent Centers for Disease Control statistics indicating a 28% rise. Suicide is currently the tenth leading cause of death in the United States overall, and the second leading cause of death for individuals between 10 and 34 years of age, leaving more than half of the US population experiencing its direct impact. Although assessment, prevention, and intervention strategies are crucial for predicting and preventing suicide, postvention/exposure practices are paramount to facilitating bereavement and healing in those impacted by suicide.

In this Virtual Forum, Dr. Julie Cerel & Dr. Jill Harkavy-Friedman will discuss what happens after a patient, family member, or friend takes their life by suicide, and how promoting postvention activities is essential for various stakeholders in the community, including mental health professionals. Speakers will also cover the critical components of postvention/exposure research, and appropriate suicide language relevant to health care professionals and the lay public.

Speakers are paid consultants for Otsuka Pharmaceutical Development & Commercialization, Inc.

### Speakers

**Julie Cerel, PhD**
President, American Association of Suicidology & Professor, College of Social Work, University of Kentucky

**Jill Harkavy-Friedman, PhD**
Vice President of Research, American Foundation of Suicide Prevention & Associate Professor, Columbia University

**Stephen Murray, PharmD, MBA**, Senior Medical Science Liaison, will be the moderator of this event.