

Mental Health Ministries

National Suicide Prevention Week – September 10-17

World Suicide Prevention Day – September 10

National Suicide Prevention Week (NSPW) is a week-long campaign to inform and engage health professions and the general public about suicide prevention and the warning signs of suicide. The campaign strives to reduce the stigma surrounding the topic as it raises awareness. As part of the campaign, health organizations conduct depression screenings, including self-administered and on-line tests.

For more information on how a congregation and pastor can intervene with someone who is suicidal, support families affected by suicide, and for general information promoting mental health and wellness, ***Faith.Hope.Life.*** is an initiative of the Faith Communities Task Force of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. All the information and resources necessary to launch Faith.Hope.Life. in your faith community are [available on their website.](#)

National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding

The National Day of Prayer for Mental Illness Recovery and Understanding has been designated as the Tuesday of Mental Illness Awareness Week which is first week in October of each year. This year, the National Day of Prayer takes place Oct. 3, 2017

For more information visit the NAMI website

<https://www.nami.org/Get-Involved/NAMI-FaithNet/Inspirational-and-Healing-Prayers/National-Day-of-Prayer-for-Mental-Illness-Recovery>

September is National Recovery Month

Has your community been affected by the opioid crisis? Do you have questions about supporting someone who is in recovery? What are the treatment options?

Two recent webinars provided by HHS gave an excellent overview on these issues. AND, there are materials available from the webinars.

Webinar recordings:

August 9, 2017, [Understanding the Opioid Crisis: What's at the Heart of the Matter?](#) or visit the webpage at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/5876853751166373891>

August 16, 2017, [There is Hope: Treatment, Recovery, & Prevention](#) or visit the webpage at <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/958872380186877187>

Two additional webinars are planned in September:

Hope in Action: An overview of the Practical Toolkit for faith and community leaders in the face of the opioid epidemic

September 7, 2017 from Noon to 1 p.m. EDT, [Register here](#)

Based on an understanding of the opioid crisis developed through previous webinars, this webinar will review the six different strategies outlined in the Partnership Center's Practical Toolkit which faith leaders and your community can support prevention efforts, reduce risk, and provide support to those in and seeking recovery. We want to advance your efforts to usher in a culture of compassion toward those struggling with addiction and its often severe consequences. If you are interested in saving lives and preventing future generations from harm, we encourage you to register and join our discussion.

HHS Live Stream-National Recovery Month Event

Recovery, Prevention, & Hope: National Experts on Opioids and Other Addictions Equip Faith and Community Leaders on September 27

Live Stream: 1- 2 p.m. EDT

Host your own local conversation 2- 3 p.m. EDT

Live from Washington D.C., the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will convene national leaders and experts to talk about the opioid epidemic and other addictions to raise awareness, encourage compassion, reinforce the role of community and families in long-term recovery and prevention, and make a call to action.