

# *American Foundation for Suicide Prevention*

March 2017

## **Delaware Grief Awareness Consortium (DEGAC) Agency Spotlight**



**By Susan Hyatt, DE Chapter, The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention**

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is the leader in the fight against suicide. We are dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide. The AFSP is: a) the largest Non-Profit, 501(c)(3), funder of scientific suicide research, b) advocates for Public Policy at the State and Federal levels in all 50 States and c) provides hope and support for survivors of a suicide loss.

The AFSP's goal is to reduce suicide by 20% by 2025. To achieve this goal the AFSP is engaged in the following strategies: 1) continue to fund scientific research on suicide, 2) offer Educational Programs for Professionals, 3) educate the public about mood disorders and suicide prevention. The AFSP's Programs are created using the latest scientific fact based data on suicide. We educate schools, communities and businesses on suicide prevention 4) promote policies and legislation that impact suicide and prevention and 5) provide Programs and Resources for survivors of suicide loss and people at risk.

The AFSP has at least one Chapter in every State - 85 Chapters nationwide. In December 2015, Delaware became the 50th State to have a Chapter. The flagship event is the overnight Out of the Darkness Walk. This yearly event is held in a different city each year. Next is the AFSP Out of the Darkness Community Walks held in over 400 cities, and is the 2nd fastest growing event in the U.S. These fundraising walks provide the funding

for the AFSP's research, programs and advocacy. As the Delaware Chapter grows we are also hoping to have non-walk events i.e. Beef 'n Beer, golf outings, high school/college dance-a-thons etc.

To learn more about the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, volunteer and advocate opportunities, or if you would like to host a fundraising event or would like a Program presented at your workplace, school or organization please contact us at [afsp.org/delaware](http://afsp.org/delaware). Also, please feel free to contact me directly at [smhyatt147@gmail.com](mailto:smhyatt147@gmail.com).

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