

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Nation's Public-Private Partnership for Suicide Prevention to Hold Timely Press Call with Leading Suicide Prevention Experts

*Leading suicide prevention messaging experts convene after recent deaths by suicide*

In the wake of recent news about deaths by suicide by a second Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School student and the father of one of the children killed in the 2012 Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting, the [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention \(Action Alliance\)](#) will hold a one-of-a-kind call for members of news media to discuss suicide contagion and the role media plays in suicide prevention.

This week's tragic events will likely not be the last we hear about deaths by suicide – especially involving those struggling with traumatic grief and coping with loss. **News media coverage can play a key role in encouraging help-seeking behaviors, promoting hope, and reducing contagion.** To further equip news media with guidance about covering suicide – that can help to reduce the risk of copycat suicide – join the Action Alliance and some of the nation's top messaging experts.

### WHO:

- **Ms. Colleen Carr**, Director, National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention
- **Dr. John Draper**, Executive Director, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline
- **Dr. Dan Reidenberg**, Executive Director, Suicide Awareness Voices of Education
- **Ms. Kim Ruocco**, Vice President of Suicide Prevention and Postvention, Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
- **Mr. Mark Weber**, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs/Human Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 28, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. ET

**RSVP:** Email or call Kim Torguson ([ktorguson@edc.org](mailto:ktorguson@edc.org) / 202-572-3737) to receive dial-in information.

For more information about reporting on suicide and suicide contagion, read the Action Alliance's [collective media statement](#) written in collaboration with national leading suicide prevention groups.

