



Call2Talk Postvention Support Services

Suicide Prevention Awareness Month

LOSsteam MetroWest recently attended several community events to raise awareness about our programs and to support those who have lost a loved one to suicide or are struggling with their mental health.

Events: Natick Days, United Way 5k, MetroWest and Central MA Community Out of the Darkness Walks.

It's wonderful to connect with our collaborative partners and so many community members at these yearly events. LOSS Team members pictured below with friend and colleague, Michele Marotta of Spark Kindness (center, left photo) and the incredible staff and Board Members at the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Massachusetts Chapter (far right photo). When we come together and talk openly about suicide and the impact of losing a loved one in this tragic way, we normalize the conversation and influence change.



2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention: Nod to LOSS Teams

The National Strategy is a bold new 10-year, comprehensive, whole-of-society approach to suicide prevention that provides concrete recommendations for addressing gaps in the suicide prevention field. One of the goals of the plan is to conduct postvention and support people with suicide-centered lived experience.

When describing what success looks like regarding this goal, **LOSS Teams are the first example given for best practices** (pages 47-48). We are proud to offer this much needed support in over 30 Massachusetts towns via LOSsteam MetroWest.

To access the full report, visit hhs.gov and search 2024 National Strategy for Suicide Prevention

*Learning from our
partners*

We were thrilled to have guest speakers Bonnie Cuccaro, William James College, and Sergeant Jay Ball, Framingham PD, attend our September meeting and share their expertise with the team.

The power of collaboration!

Our speakers shared an in-depth presentation about the rapid expansion of the Co-Response Model throughout our state. They elaborated on the many benefits of having clinicians respond to mental health related calls alongside police officers, their fellow first responder colleagues. We're so grateful for our partnership with Framingham PD, our many police department community partners, and our longtime collaboration with the Advocates Co-Response Team. Together, we provide critical support to the suicide loss survivor community.



**WILLIAM JAMES
COLLEGE**
Center for Crisis Response
& Behavioral Health



Bonnie Cuccaro, Associate Director, William James College Center for Crisis Response and Behavioral Health

Sergeant Jay Ball, Framingham Police Department & Teaching Faculty at William James College Center for Crisis Response and Behavioral Health

Survivor Day

LOSSteam MetroWest is partnering with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) to offer International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day again this November in the MetroWest area. Once finalized, the location will be noted in the event information.

Saturday, November 23, 10:00am-1:00pm

Each year, AFSP supports hundreds of large and small Survivor Day events around the world, in which suicide loss survivors come together to find connection, understanding and hope through their shared experience. While each event is unique and offers various programming, all feature an AFSP-produced documentary that offers a message of growth, resilience and connection.

Please visit afsp.org/SurvivorDay for further details and to register.

