

ANNOUNCEMENT:
**SEPTEMBER IS SUICIDE AWARENESS, INTERVENTION AND
PREVENTION CAMPAIGN MONTH 2009.**
“Suicide Prevention in Different Cultures”.

September: Suicide awareness, intervention, and prevention campaign month. This is an initiative strongly supported by International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP) and World Health Organization (WHO).

LifeWorks Guam, I Pinangon Campus Suicide Prevention Program, University of Guam, the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Prevention and Training Branch/PEACE, Youth For Youth Live, Americorps, Department of Youth Affairs, Rainbows For All Children-Guam, Marianas Variety, McDonald’s of Guam, Micronesia Mall, Inland Builders, LOHAS Chiropractic Clinic, Pacific Daily News, Guam Marriott Resort and Spa, are requesting your support and joint effort to carry out this movement. At this moment and time countries across the nations will be participating in this very important universal event. The national theme this year is *“Suicide Prevention in Different Cultures”.*

- **Mission:** Suicide is preventable. We as a community can reduce the incidence of death from suicide by reaching out to those that are having suicidal behavior.
- **Goal:**
 - Promote increased suicide awareness, prevention, and intervention education programs.
 - Promote leadership and advocacy on the topic of suicide
 - Reduce suicide rates and decrease suicidal behaviors.
 - Collaborate with other agencies.
- **Activities:**
 1. **Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training Edition X (ASIST)**
Learn how to respond to a person having thoughts of suicide.
 - Theme: “Saving Lives It Begins With You”
 - Venue: University of Guam, Health and Science Building
 - Date: September 5-6, 2009
 - Time: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm. Must be present both days.
 - Sponsored by I Pinangon, University of Guam, Campus Suicide Prevention. For more information please contact Eunice Perez or Dr. Ian Twaddle: 735-2888Fee charged, continuing education units offered by UOG
 2. **Memory Trees at McDonald’s of Guam sites: Agana, Tamuning, Harmon.** Participants are encouraged to write the name/s of their loved one/s to be attached to the memory trees. Memory trees and colored shaped papers will be available for them to write the name/s of their loved one/s. Sponsored by Rainbows For All Children Guam, LifeWorks Guam. Dates: September 8 – 18, 2009

3. Conference to be held at the Holiday Inn Resort and Spa sponsored by the Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse, Prevention and Training Branch/ PEACE Office from September 11-12, 2009. Please check with Michelle Sasamoto , 472-2304, PEACE Office for more details.
4. Americorps will be sponsoring an ASIST workshop with their Americorps students on September 12-13, 2009. Venue at Guam Marriott Resort and Spa. Please contact Claudia Taitano or Amber Benito at 735-2234.
5. Life Works Guam 5th Annual 3.5 mi. Suicide Awareness Campaign with Adults and Children: “Out of the Darkness, Our Community Walks”.
 - Venue: Micronesia Mall
 - Date: September 19, 2009, Saturday
 - Time: 5:45 am, GO: 6:00 am
 - Light refreshments donated by McDonald’s of Guam
6. Candlelight Vigil and Readings in remembrance of those that have died from suicide. Relatives and friends are invited to participate.
 - Date: September 19, 2009 Micronesia Mall
 - Time: 7:20 am – 8:20 am - The lighting of the candles and candlelight vigil will be held at Micronesia Mall. Spiritual leaders will lead the participants to readings in memory of their loved ones that have died from self harm.

T-shirts will be given to the first 500 finishers. Pre-registration at places: LOHAS CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC, 649-4871, and MARKS SPORTING GOODS, in Tamuning. Please write check to Rainbows For All Children Guam. Pre-registration fee: \$10.00. On the day of race is \$15.00. If interested to be a sponsor please contact Marie Virata Halloran.

Suicide is the 5th cause of death on Guam, higher then accidents and homicide. It is a serious public health issue. Together we can break the silence. Together we can save lives. Saving Lives Begins With YOU!

On behalf of Life Works Guam, thank you so much for your interest in helping us. Please pass the word around. If you need more information please do not hesitate to call me anytime regarding this event. My phone numbers are: 671-632-0257 (home), 483-0257 or email me at: rainbbows@yahoo.com.

Thank you,
Marie Virata Halloran
Marie V. Halloran, Executive Director
LifeWorks Guam

