



Coalition and Valued Associates Advocacy and Actions...

September is National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month, which helps increase public awareness of the risks for suicide, provides information about the resources available to aid someone in crisis, and shows how individuals, organizations, and communities can work together to save lives.

The Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) have been working year-round to raise awareness of the Military Crisis Line and Veterans Crisis Line, a joint effort between the departments, which provides free confidential support to active duty, National Guard and Reserve, Veterans, family members, and concerned friend of those in crisis.

Military and Veterans Service Organizations, health care providers, corporations, educational institutions, and government agencies are working alongside the DoD and VA to help spread awareness of the crisis line. Trained counselors are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year by calling:

- In the United States – 1-800-273-TALK (8255) and Press 1
- In Europe – 00800 1273 8255 or DSN 118
- In Korea – 0808 55 118 or DSN 118
- In Afghanistan – 00 1 800 273 8255 or DSN 111

In addition to the crisis phone line, help is available online through the [Military Crisis Line](#) and [Veterans Crisis Line](#) or by sending a text to 838255. Since launching in 2007, the Military and Veterans Crisis Lines have answered more than 1.25 million calls and made more than 39,000 lifesaving rescues.

We can all make a difference during Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month. If you know a Veteran or Service member in crisis or having thoughts of suicide, one conversation can connect you with free, confidential support from the Veterans or Military Crisis Line. ALA member companies and individuals can also access suicide awareness and prevention month materials by visiting the Veterans Crisis Line [The Power of 1](#) or [Spread the Word](#) websites. The [Defense Suicide Prevention Office](#) has a family guide that offers steps to take when someone is in crisis. It also lists at-risk behaviors and warning signs of a person who is potentially suicidal, as well as protective factors that help safeguard against suicide.

Resources at your fingertips:

- [Military Crisis Line](#)
- [Veterans Crisis Line](#)
- [Military OneSource Crisis and Prevention](#)
- [Suicide Prevention and Awareness](#)
- [Defense Suicide Prevention Office](#)
- [Family Guide](#)
- [Potential Risk Factors](#)
- [Potential Warning Signs](#)
- [Protective Factors](#)
- [IAVA's Campaign to Combat Suicide](#)