

Panelists for Los Angeles County Suicide Prevention Network



This year's theme "**The Hero in Each of Us: Finding Your Role in Suicide Prevention**" is embodied in the individuals represented on this panel. In their own way, each member has taken their passion for suicide prevention and decided to help raise awareness, or support others in their community. It is often said that "everyone has a role to play in suicide prevention" and yet we wonder what we as individuals can do to make a difference. It is our hope that these stories will help you find your role and that you will never underestimate what you can do to help someone find their reasons for living.

Ann Taylor

Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services



Ann Taylor is a suicide attempt survivor whose story was highlighted in the acclaimed documentary "The S Word." She is grateful to have been given the opportunity to take her lived experience to help those dealing with suicidal thoughts and experiences. After participating in one of Didi Hirsch's attempt survivor support groups in 2013, Ann became a facilitator for those groups and joined the suicide prevention crisis line team as a Crisis Chat Counselor in November 2015. Ann still lives with daily thoughts of suicide but finds her work in suicide prevention inspirational and healing.

Officer Stacey Creech

Los Angeles Port Police, Community Relations Officer



For more than three years, Officer Creech has been working diligently on getting suicide prevention on the minds of the local community of San Pedro and the Port of Los Angeles. After seeing firsthand what happens at the Vincent Thomas Bridge, she felt very strongly that something needed to be done. Persistence paid off and she has now been connected with a group of passionate people to bring suicide prevention/intervention training to the entire team at the Los Angeles Port Police with more than seventy officers trained to date. Additional prevention efforts include signs displayed on the bridge with information on suicide crisis support resources as well as possible structural preventions to the bridge to keep these tragedies from continuing to occur.

Melvin Jackson Jr.

Emmy-nominated actor/producer Melvin Jackson Jr. from "This Eddie Murphy Role is Mine not Yours", HBO's "The Wire", BET's "The New Edition Story", & CW's "Everybody Hates Chris"



Melvin Jackson Jr. is an Emmy-nominated actor who is also a writer, producer, director and motivational speaker who was born in Washington, D.C. He and his wife made history by becoming the first African-American married couple to be nominated for an Emmy award in the same year. Melvin has two Gold medals in track and field and a Bronze medal in wrestling which he won while living in Ankara, Turkey. Melvin is passionate about empowering the youth and making a difference in the world.

Rev. Alice Parsons Zulli, FT, FMS, BCPC

Director, Beyond Loss Bereavement Ministry and Grief Support Center



Rev. Alice Parsons Zulli is an Ordained Minister specializing in Clinical Thanatology. A suicide loss survivor of her father and nephew, Chaplain Zulli has dedicated many years to suicide loss support and to suicide prevention. She is an Internationally Certified Grief Counselor, Nationally Certified Grief Facilitator, and Bereavement Educator. She founded the Beyond Loss program in 1990 and has successfully created a program encompassing the components of Community Support, Volunteering, Training and Education, and Research and Writing. Additionally she is a chaplain and interdenominational minister in a 515 bed hospital.