2022-2025
Three-Year Strategic Plan
Executive Summary

The new three-year strategic plan was developed by listening to all voices within the organization, and articulates five goals and 25 key strategies that the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) will accomplish over the course of the plan.

It builds on progress AFSP made in implementing the previous plan and identifies critical issues to concentrate on over the next 3 years, which are represented throughout the plan, including:

- Importance of diversity
- Technology as an organization-wide enabler
- Partnerships and collaborations
- Use of data to better measure impact
- Strengthening AFSP’s chapters

Within the plan there is a major focus on Research, Programs and Advocacy, and on implementation of a bold goal targeted initiative aimed at reducing the U.S. suicide rate 20% by 2025.

AFSP will be relentless in its efforts to achieve the outcomes outlined in this strategic plan and will do everything it can to advance its mission to save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide.
Goal 1

Accelerate progress in suicide research by driving discovery & innovation
Strategies

- Increase total funding for research and targeted funding for:
  - Underrepresented populations
  - Implementation science
  - Loss survivors

- Attract new and diverse talent into suicide research, including researchers from underrepresented populations

- Identify key research questions and increase the focus on priority research

- Partner with federal and other funders to increase support for research priorities

- Provide training and support to researchers to improve research quality

- Communicate research findings to the public and end users to increase knowledge and awareness
Goal 2

Engage interested parties and the public in education, advocacy & action
Strategies

• Leverage and galvanize current political will (nationally and through chapters) to increase impact on Federal & State legislation and policies

• Execute public policy priorities and establish impact measurements

• Execute a comprehensive communications and marketing strategy, nationally and through chapters

• Expand reach and maximize impact by:
  - Engaging interested parties and public through compelling storytelling
  - Leveraging and mobilizing key influencers and others to amplify voices
  - Supporting needs of, and elevating voices in, underrepresented communities
  - Engaging new and existing strategic partnerships
  - Working with media and entertainment to change culture
Goal 3

Strengthen AFSP’s capabilities to realize the mission
Strategies

• Enhance workforce diversity and skill for equity and inclusion

• Develop and implement a staff structure and organizational culture that assures AFSP’s future success

• Prioritize and leverage technology as an enabler for staff and the work of AFSP

• Increase investment in chapters to develop and implement a structure to better deliver on the mission

• Generate and maximize revenue to carry out the mission
Goal 4

Engage people with evidence-informed programs
Strategies

• Deliver programs virtually and in person to impact the general population and more targeted groups
• Escalate reach and active collaboration with diverse communities
• Establish strategic partnerships
• Measure and communicate impact of programs
• Increase active collaboration with employers and reach more people at work with programs
Goal 5

Catalyze a reduction in the suicide rate through healthcare, emergency medicine, corrections systems change, and firearms suicide prevention.
Strategies

- Leverage strategic partnerships to maximize implementation in the four target areas
- Engage and support chapters to expand programs in the four target areas
- Identify and leverage metrics to measure and communicate impact
- Integrate organization-wide involvement in the four target areas
- Craft strategies to adapt and sustain a bold goal beyond 2025
Save Lives & Bring Hope to Those Affected By Suicide