

Walk to Fight Suicide

Out of the Darkness[™]
Community Walks:

Sponsorship Opportunities

ERIE WALK

afsp.org/erie



Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention

OUT OF THE
DARKNESS
Community Walks



**American
Foundation
for Suicide
Prevention**



Dear Erie Area Business,

On Saturday, September 25, 2021, our Western PA Chapter brings back to Erie **the Out of the Darkness Walk** at Presque Isle State Park. The purpose of the Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention is to raise awareness and essential funds to help combat suicide in our area and in Pennsylvania. In 2019, our event drew over 600 attendees. We invite you to be a contributing sponsor for this event, aligning your business with this important cause that is the #11 leading cause of death in PA.

Did you know...

- *We lose on average 1 person every 4 hours in this state to suicide.*
- *More people die annually in the U.S. by suicide than by homicide, wars, and natural disasters combined.*
- *More than 48,000 lives were lost by suicide nationally in 2018, the latest CDC data, with 48 in Erie County alone.*

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention leads the fight against suicide.

Funds raised allow us to fund research, create educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss. Our chapter is committed to spending these funds locally. With your support we will be able to host educational programs and provide support to survivors of suicide loss right here in Erie.

This year your support will be more crucial than ever. The work of suicide prevention is even more critical in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Many people are struggling with their mental health due to anxiety and depression triggered by some aspect of the pandemic -- illness of self or loved ones, financial worries, job loss, etc. Your support of AFSP will save lives as we continue to bring hope, research, and raise awareness and support for those with lived experience and those who have suffered a suicide loss.

We understand that things are constantly changing in our community and that our current plans may change again. However, the event takes place this year, we promise our participants and supporters a day full of hope, support, and resiliency. We hope we can count on your support. Thank you in advance to those who are able to help and who do so.

We also encourage you to **form a team** to join with us, since it's free to walk! Visit our walk web page at: www.afsp.org/erie

This is your invitation to become a corporate donor to this life-saving cause.

Please see the following agreement page for sponsorship levels and benefits, **starting at only \$250**. A \$500 sponsorship gets your name/logo on all the official Erie walk t-shirts. You are also invited to form a corporate team and invite employees and constituents to join us!

Your corporate donation is tax deductible. Our federal tax ID # is 13-3393329. More information about our organization and a copy of our 501(c)3 IRS filing & determination letter can be found on the "Financials" page on our website: <http://afsp.org/about-afsp/financials/>

If you have any questions, please contact me. Thank you so much for your time and consideration!

Sincerely,

Julie Mehlenbacher and Gina Bizzarro
Erie Walk Chairs
julieAFSP@gmail.com/ginambizzarro@gmail.com

Out of the Darkness Community Experience – Western Pennsylvania Chapter 2021 Erie, PA Sponsorship Agreement

We authorize the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to include our corporate name and logo on all “Out of the Darkness” materials consistent with our sponsorship selection. (PLEASE PRINT)

Your Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Person: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Select Sponsor Level

<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250	HOPE	Name listed in Walk Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$350	Prevention	HOPE-level benefits + logo on Walk Website, opportunity to support the nation’s leading non-profit organization dedicated to understanding and preventing suicide through research, education and advocacy, and to reaching out to people with mental disorders and those impacted by suicide and name listed in Walk Program
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500	Advocate	Prevention-level benefits + logo on Event T-shirts, complimentary T-shirts, highlight on social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$750	Life Saver	Advocate-level benefits + Spotlight recognition in opening ceremony, logo on event email promotions
<input type="checkbox"/>	\$1,000	Platinum	Life Saver-level benefits + named as sponsor for an upcoming Western PA education event, and option to hold education event at your company at no cost.
<input type="checkbox"/>	In-kind		In-kind donations must be pre-approved by the Walk Chair and valued at \$100 or more. Mention during ceremony, on event signage and on social media.
<input type="checkbox"/>	+\$1,000	All-Experience Sponsor	<i>Add \$1,000 to your donation to sponsor all 2021 Western PA community events in Allegheny, Cambria, Erie, Elk, and Lawrence counties and add your logo to all walk shirts.</i>

 **Agreement and Logo Must Be Received by July 31, 2021** 

Donation Via: (please select one)

- Enclosed Check Please make check payable to: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention or AFSP
In memo line, please indicate: “2021 Erie, PA Experience”

Authorized Signature (needed for check): _____ **Date:** _____

- Credit Card:
 AMEX MasterCard Visa Discover

CARD NO: _____

EXP. DATE: _____ / _____ CODE: _____ BILLING ZIP: _____

Charge amount authorized: \$ _____

Authorized Signature (needed for credit card): _____ **Date:** _____

Please Mail or Email
Agreement, Payment & Logo
(EPS OR PNG format) to:

jputkoski@afsp.org
AFSP Western PA Chapter
1597 Washington Pike, Suite A38, Box 272
Bridgeville, PA 15017-2899

Thank You for Generously Supporting Suicide Prevention!