# SUICIDE: DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA 2015 FACTS & FIGURES

**Suicide Death Rates**

### Suicide cost the District of Columbia a total of

**$53,227,000** of combined lifetime medical and work loss cost in 2010, or an average of

**$1,298,219** per suicide death.

### IN THE DISTRICT OFCOLUMBIA, SUICIDE ISTHE...

**2nd leading** cause of death for ages 10-24

**5th leading** cause of death for ages 25-34

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Number of Deaths  by Suicide | Rate per 100,000  Population | State  Rank |
| District of Columbia | 38 | 5.77 | 51 |
|  |  |  |  |
| Nationally | 41,149 | 12.57 |  |

Suicide is the **16th leading** cause of death overall in the

**6th leading** cause of death for ages 35-44

**12th leading** cause of death for ages 45-54

**13th leading** cause of death for ages 55-64

District of Columbia.

On average, one person dies by suicide **every nine days** in the district.

Deaths by suicide in the District of Columbia reflect a total of **765** years of potential life lost (YPLL) before age 65.



Based on most recent 2013 data from CDC

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SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES

The former DC Capital CARES (Citywide Alliance to Reduce Risk for an Eliminate Youth Suicide) Program was housed within the DC Department of Mental Health (DMH). DC Capital CARES was a 3-year grant program to implement the District’s youth suicide prevention plan, aimed at youth ages 10-24 and their families. The program came to a close as of June 2013 due to a lack of continued funding.

DC DMH is keeping suicide prevention activities going without dedicated funding in the following ways:

Mental Health First Aid and safeTALK training are offered through the DC DMH Training Institute (visit [http://dbhtraininginstitute.](http://dbhtraininginstitute/) networkofcare4elearning.org/default.aspx)

The Signs of Suicide (SOS) school-based screening and education program is offered through the school mental health program

(visit <http://dbh.dc.gov/service/school-behavioral-health-program)>

The “I Am the Difference” social marketing materials are still available, in limited supply; visit [www.IamthedifferenceDC.org](http://www.IamthedifferenceDC.org/)

# GET INVOLVED

AFSP’s National Capital Area Chapter brings together peo- ple of all backgrounds in communities throughout the state to fight suicide. For more information or to volunteer, please contact:

AFSP – NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA

[nationalcapitalDC@afsp.org](mailto:nationalcapitalDC@afsp.org)

**BECOME AN ADVOCATE IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

AFSP’s District of Columbia advocacy volunteers build relationships with public officials and advocate on behalf of sound suicide prevention policy.

To get involved, contact: Nicole Gibson

AFSP Senior Manager of State Advocacy [ngibson@afsp.org](mailto:ngibson@afsp.org)

## LEADING THE FIGHT AGAINST SUICIDE

We fund research, offer educational programs, advocate for public policy and support those affected by suicide. Headquartered in New York, AFSP has 75 local chapters with programs and events nationwide.

