

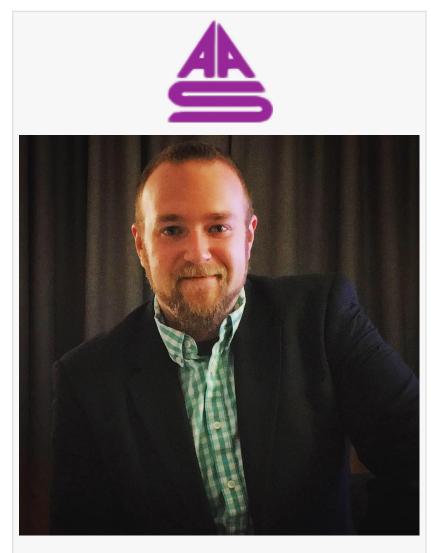
American Association of Suicidology Announces New Communications Coordinator

WASHINGTON, DC, USA, January 3, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- After an exhaustive nationwide search, The American Association of Suicidology (AAS) is pleased to announce the selection of Chris Maxwell as its first fulltime Communications Coordinator.

Chris brings nearly 9 years of experience in suicide prevention programming and advocacy. His passion toward understanding suicide, harnessing the capability of social media to prevent it, and efforts to advocate for the voices of those with lived experience exemplify the bright future of the organization. Prior to this position, Chris co-chaired the communications committee for the board of directors of AAS, paving the way for innovative and industry-leading media collaborations.

"I am thrilled that AAS is in a position to hire a communications coordinator and so glad to be able to continue to work with Chris who was amazing, even as a very part-time volunteer" said AAS President, Julie Cerel, PhD.

"We are pleased that someone who has worked so tirelessly for suicide



prevention emerged as the best candidate" said AAS Executive Director, Colleen Creighton. "Chris brings a deep understanding of the issue along with such a creative sense of new, innovative ways to get AAS more engaged on this issue. I'm excited to have him join our team at this pivotal juncture."

"I'm incredibly excited to work with AAS staff and membership to enhance the mission of AAS through new projects and initiatives," Maxwell said in a statement. "The field of suicide prevention is at a turning point. Now is the time for us to amplify the voices of our members and to guide the public in ways that will truly provide education and prevent suicide."

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About AAS: Founded in 1968 by pioneering Psychologist Dr. Edwin S. Shneidman (1918-2009), AAS

is based in Washington DC, it promotes suicide prevention as a research discipline, public awareness programs, public education and training for professionals and volunteers. The membership of AAS includes mental health and public health professionals, researchers, suicide prevention and crisis intervention centers, school districts, crisis center volunteers, survivors of suicide loss, attempt survivors, and a variety of lay persons who have in interest in suicide prevention. You can learn more about AAS at <u>www.suicidology.org</u>.

For the media: We urge members of the media to share suicide prevention resources in all of their reports. Responsible reporting on suicide and the inclusion of stories of hope and resilience can prevent more suicides. You can find more information on <u>safe messaging around suicide here</u>.

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