



Embrace Fund's National Suicide Prevention Helpline Training

Embrace Fund at AUBMC invites you to participate in an in-depth training on ***“Active Listening Skills”*** and ***“Suicide Risk Assessment and Crisis Intervention”***.

With ***one person dying of suicide every 2.5 days*** in Lebanon and international statistics showing that for every completed suicide there is an estimated 10 to 20 suicide attempts; for Lebanon this potentially translates to approximately ***1 attempt every 5 hours***.

In response to the growing concern of suicide in Lebanon, the Embrace Fund has set to develop ***the first National Suicide Prevention Helpline in the region***. Suicide helplines have been implemented globally with tremendous success i.e. helping decrease suicidality among their callers. The National Suicide Prevention Helpline will be a specialized telephone service that is envisioned to provide services such as suicide risk assessment, collaborative intervention in life threatening suicidal emergencies, and referrals to community resources and treatment programs.

All individuals who are interested in volunteering to become ***helpline operators*** at the National Suicide Prevention Helpline are invited to sign up for this training workshop to enhance their knowledge and skills in active listening, suicide risk assessment, and crisis intervention. These sets of skills are unique and transferable and will allow individuals to practice them in settings beyond the scope of their work at the helpline.

The Embrace Fund welcomes applications from individuals with various backgrounds, but preference will be given to those with a background and experience in mental health. Individuals who are selected for the training will be asked to commit to serve as a volunteer helpline operator for ***a minimum of one year***. In its first year of operation, the National Suicide Prevention Helpline will operate from ***12 noon till 2 am*** with volunteer shifts spanning ***3.5 hours***. Each volunteer will be kindly asked to cover ***two shifts per week***.

The training workshop will be delivered by Embrace Fund's international consultant, ***Dr. Brian Mishara***, who is the Director of the Center for Research and Intervention on Suicide and Euthanasia and Professor at the Psychology Department of University of Quebec in Montreal. Dr. Mishara also serves as the Vice Chair of Trustees at Befrienders Worldwide. He is the founder of Suicide Action Montreal, the Montreal Suicide Prevention Center, and past president of the International Association for Suicide Prevention and the Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention. Dr. Mishara consults for and conducts suicide prevention trainings internationally.

Date: February 15th-17th, 2017. Agenda will be circulated at a later time to enrolled participants.

Location: American University of Beirut Medical Center

How to apply: Please email a copy of your CV and a statement of motivation to ck37@aub.edu.lb and copy ma207@aub.edu.lb to the email. Applicants must be above the age of 21. All applications will be screened for eligibility criteria.