



Contact: Eileen Sexton
Director of Communications
202-572-5383, esexton@edc.org

January 7, 2014

New Key Leader Appointed to the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention

Dr. Doryn Chervin brings three decades of high-level public health expertise

Washington, DC – The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention (*Action Alliance*) is pleased to announce the selection of Doryn D. Chervin, Dr.P.H., as its new Executive Secretary. Dr. Chervin’s three decades of public health experience are comprised of results-driven program improvements. She has worked with all levels of Government, as well as with nongovernmental and community organizations helping to translate research and science into policies and programs. Dr. Chervin currently serves as vice president and senior scientist in EDC’s Health and Human Development Division. Her expertise in addressing social determinants of health will contribute immensely to the Action Alliance’s goal of saving 20,000 lives in five years.

“Dr. Chervin’s deep understanding of building strategic relationships and her background in public health will be a true asset in advancing the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* and progressing actionable and life-saving changes in the field of suicide prevention,” said Jerry Reed, Ph.D., M.S.W., Director of the Suicide Prevention Resource Center at Education Development Center, Inc. and Executive Committee member of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention. “Her outstanding leadership skills and business development acumen will propel the Action Alliance forward in garnering public and corporate support, creating future and long-lasting partnerships and a collective understanding that suicide is preventable.”

Most recently, Dr. Chervin was the Executive Vice President and Principal Scientist at SciMetrika, where she directed the Social and Behavioral Sciences Division and led key corporate initiatives. For 16 years, at ICF International’s (formerly Macro International) she served as a senior leader, including serving as Vice President of work in the Public Health Research and Evaluation practice, addressing a broad spectrum of public health issues.

Dr. Chervin has directed more than 180 state and national program evaluations, policy assessments and evaluations, training projects, and research studies over her career. Dr. Chervin conducted rapid assessments leading to rigorous evaluations in work as diverse as hypertension control, heart disease and stroke prevention, school policies in asthma-management, and policies to improve testing and treatment for HIV among adolescents. She led multiple staff teams whose focus was on high-quality, data-driven results for public health improvement and accountability.

She has managed contracts for a host of national programs, including CDC's National Centers for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion; Injury Prevention and Control; Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry; Health Marketing (NCHM); HIV/AIDS, Viral Hepatitis, STD, and TB Prevention; and National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health; National Immunization Program; Office of the Director.

Dr. Chervin received her Dr.P.H. from the University of Texas School of Public Health, focusing on community mental health, and her M.Ed. in guidance and counseling from the University of Houston. She earned her undergraduate B.A. degree in psychology from the University of Texas.

The National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention

(www.ActionAllianceforSuicidePrevention.org) is the public-private partnership advancing the *National Strategy for Suicide Prevention* (NSSP) by championing suicide prevention as a national priority, catalyzing efforts to implement high-priority objectives of the NSSP, and cultivating the resources needed to sustain progress. Launched in 2010 by U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius and former U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, the Action Alliance envisions a nation free from the tragic event of suicide with a goal of saving 20,000 lives in five years. Contact: Eileen Sexton, Director of Communications, 202-572-5383, esexton@edc.org.

--###--