

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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***Prominent Multisectoral Leaders Join National Public-Private Partnership to Prevent Suicide***

*Influential leaders representing diverse sectors bring new expertise and perspectives  
to national suicide prevention efforts*

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**— Distinguished leaders, representing diverse private sector industries, join the [Executive Committee](#) (EXCOM) of the [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention](#) (Action Alliance)—the nation's only public-private partnership for suicide prevention working to make suicide prevention a national priority. New EXCOM leaders include:

- [Dr. Charles Lattarulo](#), Global Director, Healthy Minds, American Express – a multinational Fortune 500 financial services corporation.
- [Dr. Nyaka NiiLampti](#), Vice President of Wellness and Clinical Services, National Football League – long-time EXCOM organizational member from the field of professional sports committed to player, staff, family, and fan well-being.
- [Mr. Amit Paley](#), CEO and Executive Director, The Trevor Project – the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ young people.
- [Mr. David Zolet](#), President and CEO, LMI – a consultancy dedicated to improving the business of government.

Suicide rates in the U.S. have increased substantially over the past two decades, consistently ranking it among the top ten leading causes of death. It is currently the second-leading cause of death among people ages 10 to 34 and the fourth-leading cause of death among people ages 35 to 54. Due to its complex nature, suicide requires a collaborative, comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach. The Action Alliance EXCOM brings together more than 40 influential senior leaders from organizations representing diverse sectors (e.g., construction, defense, health, military, news, railroad, technology) to build a robust, well-informed, and effective national suicide prevention response.

"No one sector alone can tackle suicide prevention. We must bring together the best minds, from across industries, if we are serious about reducing suicide in the U.S.," said Bob Turner, private sector chair of the Action Alliance and former senior vice president at Union Pacific Corporation. "These dynamic leaders bring with them important new perspectives and influence to help inform the Action Alliance's work and increase the overall impact of national suicide prevention efforts."

The Action Alliance EXCOM provides strategic direction to advance the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention](#) – a roadmap that, when followed, will lead to a nation free from the tragic experience of suicide – and implement three national priorities chosen for their potential to produce the systems-level change necessary to substantially lower the number of suicides in the nation: [transforming health](#)

[systems, transforming community-based suicide prevention](#), and [changing the conversation about suicide](#).

“While much has been achieved by the Action Alliance and its partners since the Action Alliance formed in 2010, the reality is that suicide rates are only continuing to rise,” said Colleen Carr, director of the Action Alliance. “We look forward to working with Charles, Nyaka, Amit, and David, in partnership with our other EXCOM leaders and national partners, to develop innovative solutions that can lead to significant change in our nation. This year, as the Action Alliance recognizes 10 years of serving as the nation’s public-private partnership for suicide prevention, we challenge our leaders to think big and do more—the time to act is now.”

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Quotes from the Action Alliance’s newly appointed EXCOM members:

- “As a psychologist with over 20 years of behavioral health experience and creator and global director of American Express’ Healthy Minds program, I recognize the important role large employers can play in suicide prevention by creating a culture of wellbeing for colleagues and their families,” said **Charles Lattarulo, PhD**, global director of Healthy Minds at American Express. “I look forward to working with the Action Alliance and its partners from other sectors to help bring suicide prevention efforts to people throughout the country, within the communities where they live and the places in which they work.”
- “Successfully combatting the epidemic of suicide requires an approach that brings together diverse perspectives from across institutions, and the Action Alliance is in the unique position to help move our national suicide prevention efforts forward,” said **Nyaka NiiLampti, PhD**, vice president of wellness and clinical services for the National Football League. “The National Football league is excited to add its voice to this conversation, as progress on this critical issue will contribute to the overall health of those in the NFL community, as well as our larger society.”
- “As the head of the world’s largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ young people, I am honored to join this esteemed group of senior leaders on the Action Alliance’s Executive Committee,” said **Amit Paley**, CEO and executive director of The Trevor Project. “LGBTQ youth are not prone to suicide just because of their sexual orientation or gender identity—they are at a higher risk because of experiences with rejection, discrimination, mental health care disparities, and the unique challenges that the LGBTQ community faces every day. I am proud to bring their voices to the table as we work across sectors to address this critical public health crisis. The Trevor Project is committed to working alongside the Action Alliance to move the needle on suicide prevention, and ultimately save lives.”
- “At LMI, we take care of one another. We take our role as corporate citizens very seriously, which is why I am delighted to be joining the Action Alliance’s Executive Committee as we work to make suicide prevention a national priority,” said **David Zolet**, president and CEO of LMI. “It’s imperative that we find collaborative, national-level approaches to prevent suicide, especially among high-risk populations such as youth and military veterans. As I work alongside the Action Alliance and its many partners, I aim to help those who may be in crisis find a renewed sense of hope and purpose in a safe, positive environment.”

**FOR MEDIA PARTNERS:**

Research shows that the media may influence suicide rates by the way they report on suicide. Evidence suggests that when the media tell stories of people positively coping in suicidal moments, more suicides can be prevented. We urge all members of the media working on these stories to refer to the [Recommendations for Reporting on Suicide](#) for best practices for safely and accurately reporting on suicide (such as including the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-TALK \[8255\]](#)). For stories of persons with lived experience of suicidality and finding hope, refer to [www.lifelineforattemptsurvivors.org](http://www.lifelineforattemptsurvivors.org).

**NATIONAL ACTION ALLIANCE FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION:**

*The [National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention](#) (Action Alliance) is the public-private partnership working to advance the [National Strategy for Suicide Prevention](#) and make suicide prevention a national priority. The [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) provides funding to [EDC](#) to operate and manage the Secretariat for the Action Alliance, which was launched in 2010. Learn more at [theactionalliance.org](http://theactionalliance.org) and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following the Action Alliance on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), and [YouTube](#).*