World Suicide Prevention Day: September 10

To commemorate this year's World Suicide Prevention Day, some member organizations will hold their own events to recognize the importance of this date, and acknowledge all people worldwide who have been touched by suicide. Read more...

At 8 pm on September 10, light a candle in remembrance of those who we’ve lost through suicide. Click the 2016 World Suicide Prevention Day website for more information.

August 2016

Statistics, Information and Outcome Measures (SIOM) Summary Report

DCO member distress and crisis organizations across Ontario provided emotional support services to over 302,700 individuals in 2015, representing a seven percent increase over 2014.

The detailed 2015 call report data continues to reveal the wide range of complex issues faced by those who reach out for support, as well as the corresponding challenges to distress and crisis service providers in meeting immediate emotional needs in our local communities.

What was shifted since 2014 in terms of immediate needs and concerns? More individuals are talking about mental health concerns, with a six percent increase in 2015. While the overall number of callers concerned about abuse and violence in 2015 is consistent with 2014, more caller had concerns about bullying, survivors of childhood abuse, as well as victims of violence. 2015 also witnessed an increase in employment-related concerns among callers.

How are we doing in terms of meeting those needs? In 2015, there was an increase in the number of callers who described feeling better after receiving support. Again in 2015, 98 percent of all suicide-related calls were deescalated without the involvement of emergency services, including 911, police or emergency room visits.

Read more...
Learning Forums: Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

Learning Forums' latest educational offering highlights Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD). For this presentation, Distress and Crisis Ontario recently partnered with the Canadian Mental Health Association Durham.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) is a severe and debilitating anxiety disorder that affects about one adult in 40, making it twice as common as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder, and the fourth most common psychiatric disorder, according to statistics provided by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH).

Read more...

National Suicide Prevention Service (NSPS)

The collaborative project to provide a single access phone, text and chat suicide prevention service that is nationally available and regionally delivered continues full speed ahead. Existing distress, crisis, and suicide prevention centres across Canada have come together for over three years to develop the concept, work on a Request for Proposal for the technology infrastructure, and develop plans and find areas of commonality in service provision.

Read more...

9th Annual Spirit of Volunteerism: Introducing the 2016 Nominees, Part One

On Monday, June 20, DCO was very pleased to celebrate our Spirit of Volunteerism nominees and recipients during a wonderful evening at BMO Learning Centre. The evening was emceed by DCO's Executive Director, Elizabeth Fisk, and the trophies and certificates were presented by DCO's new Board Chair, Alison Caird.

Last month we introduced you to the 2016 Recipients, and this month we would like to introduce you to some of the exemplary nominees.

Read more...

DCO Board of Directors

Stacy Terry, Executive Director of Distress Centre Niagara, needs little in the way of introduction. Her involvement with Distress Centre Niagara began over 18 years ago, and in 2011, Stacy moved into the role of Executive Director. In all of her experience, Stacy knows full well the value of distress and crisis lines to their communities.

Stacy believes that those with lived experience should be a voice that is given equal consideration to system
change, and that volunteers are a valuable community that should be cherished and nurtured to continue to be the natural safety nets in communities.

Read more...

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**DCO Upcoming Events and Schedule of Meetings**

**Board of Directors**
October 19

**Governance Committee**
TBD

**ONTX Steering Committee**
TBD

**Upcoming Learning Forums Videos**
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Mental Health First Aid
- Children's Aid and Duty to Report

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**News from our Member Centres**

**DC Oakville and DC North Halton**
In anticipation of their AGM on Sept. 19, 2016, DC Oakville and DC North Halton have unveiled a new comprehensive brand strategy with internal stakeholders, and will link their centre telephony systems and launch a comprehensive brand/PR campaign as DC Halton, funded by an exciting partner.

**DC Oakville**
DC Oakville's AGM will be held September 19 from 7 - 9 pm, in the Community Room at Halton Police Region Police Service, 95 Oakwalk drive. Guest speaker, Chris Elliot, from Halton Region Police Service. For more information and to RSVP, please contact info@dcoakville.com.

**Nunavut Kamatsiaqtut Help Line**
Nunavut is pleased to host the 2016 Canadian Association for Suicide Prevention conference this year. The theme is Hope, Help, and Healing, and it takes place October 26 - 29, 2016 in Iqaluit, Nunavut. [Click here for more information.]

Please [email](mailto:) us to share your centre's news and upcoming events in e-News & Views.