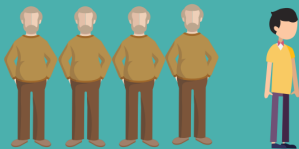


# Preventing Suicide Among Older Adults

Adults over age 65 have some of the highest rates of suicide in the U.S. However, despite the statistics, professionals and individuals across communities can take steps to bring help and hope to this population.



Men ages 85 and older are almost four times as likely to die by suicide as adolescent males ages 15 to 19.

(CDC, 2014)

**Older adults** who attempt suicide are **more likely to use lethal means and to die** than younger people who attempt suicide.

(AAS, 2015)

# Who Can Help?

Individuals and professionals who work in any of the following settings can play an important role in preventing suicide among older adults:



Primary  
Care



Behavioral  
Health



Faith  
Communities



Senior Centers  
and Senior Living  
Communities

**Think You Might Know Someone at Risk?**  
**Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline for help:**  
**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

## Resources

Older Americans Behavioral Health Issue Brief 4: Preventing Suicide in Older Adults



[http://www.sprc.org/library\\_resources/items/older-americans-behavioral-health-issue-brief-4-preventing-suicide-older-adu](http://www.sprc.org/library_resources/items/older-americans-behavioral-health-issue-brief-4-preventing-suicide-older-adu)

Suicide in Late Life: Unique Factors and Enduring Treatment Gaps



<http://www.sprc.org/directorsblog/suicide-late-life-unique-factors-and-enduring-treatment-gaps>

National Council on Aging's Center for Healthy Aging, behavioral health resources



<https://www.ncoa.org/center-for-healthy-aging/>

## References



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