

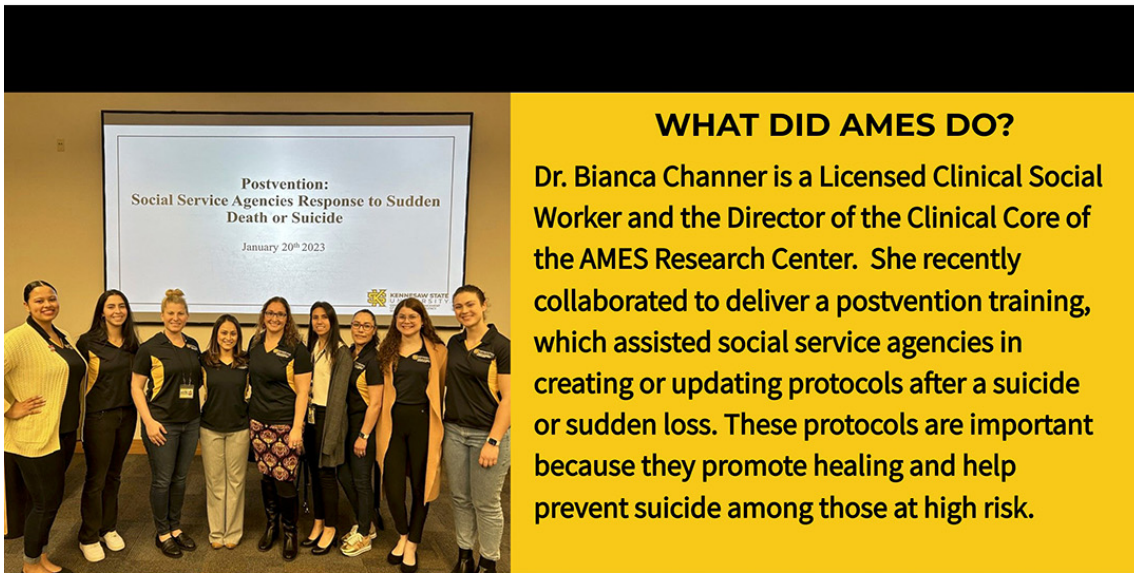


# AMES IN ACTION

## MARCH 2023



# PROVIDING POSTVENTION SUPPORT AFTER A SUDDEN LOSS



### WHAT DID AMES DO?

Dr. Bianca Channer is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and the Director of the Clinical Core of the AMES Research Center. She recently collaborated to deliver a postvention training, which assisted social service agencies in creating or updating protocols after a suicide or sudden loss. These protocols are important because they promote healing and help prevent suicide among those at high risk.

### HOW DOES THIS APPLY TO MILITARY, VETERANS, AND EMERGENCY SERVICES?

Military personnel, veterans, and emergency services workers are at increased risk for suicidality. While some agencies do have postvention protocols in place, many do not. Organizations tend not to think about these protocols until they must (when a suicide or sudden loss occurs). Through this training, we encourage organizations to create and refine a postvention plan now, as this can aid in effective agency and community response.

### HOW CAN YOU APPLY THIS INFORMATION?

#### ASK ABOUT EXISTING PROTOCOLS

Ask if your agency has a protocol for postvention after a suicide or sudden loss. If one does exist determine the last

#### COMPARE PROTOCOLS

Find postvention protocol templates from other agencies and use them as

#### IMPLEMENT AMES MODEL

This training followed the AMES Postvention Model. The steps of this model are

exist, determine the last  
time it was updated.

and use them as  
a starting point.

modules  
described below.

**A**

Assemble  
Postvention Team

**M**

Meet with Mental  
Health Providers

**E**

Educate and  
Establish Norms

**S**

Support  
and Share