

LOSS Talk: Developing a LOSSTEAM in Your Community



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***We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time***

from the Four Quartets, T.S. Eliot

- **“A Benign Community ought routinely provide Postvention”**

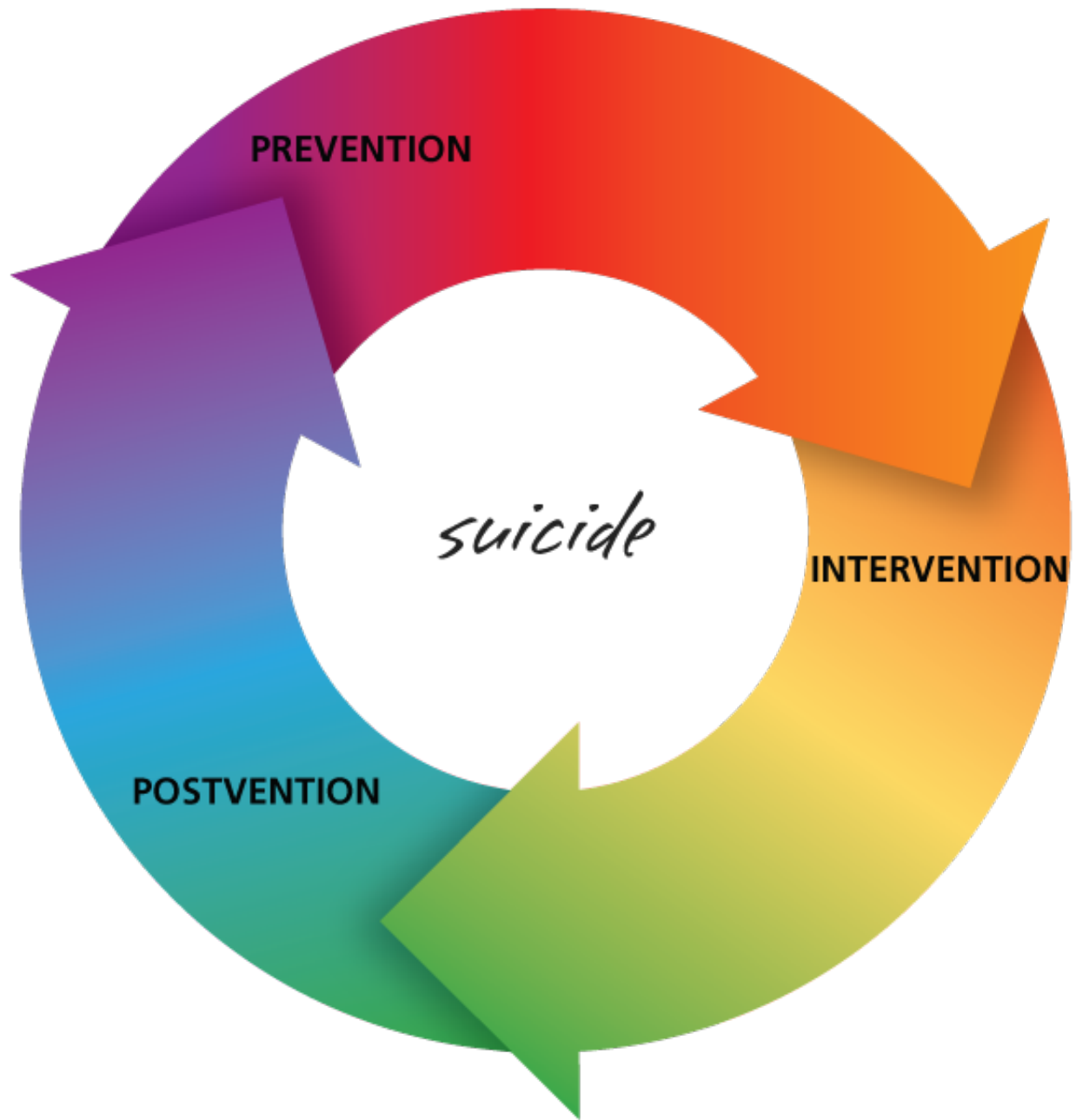
Dr. Edwin Shneidman-1972

Mark's story (play clip)

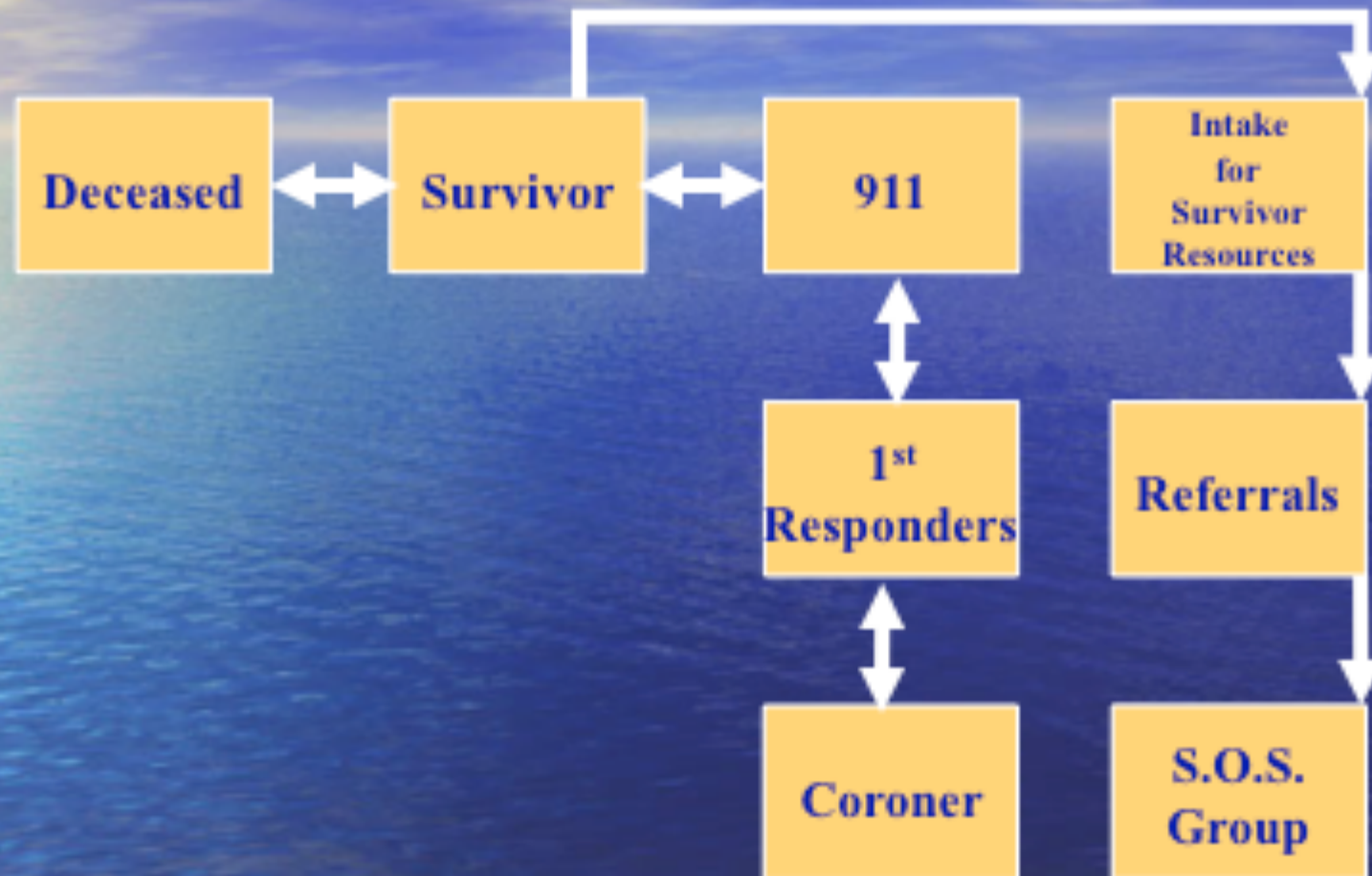
How do you eliminate the
stumble factor?

Postvention is prevention for the
next generation

Edwin Shneidman Ph.D. (1972)



Passive Community approach



Community Active Postvention Model



Changing the Legacy of Suicide

- 1990-1997 repeated tries to get to the scene that failed
- 1997 Presidential address
- May 1997-December 1998 approval of 3 year research project, recruitment of subjects, start of on going and monthly training for lossteam members.
- Then review of research and results at 10 years (2009)

Going to the scene

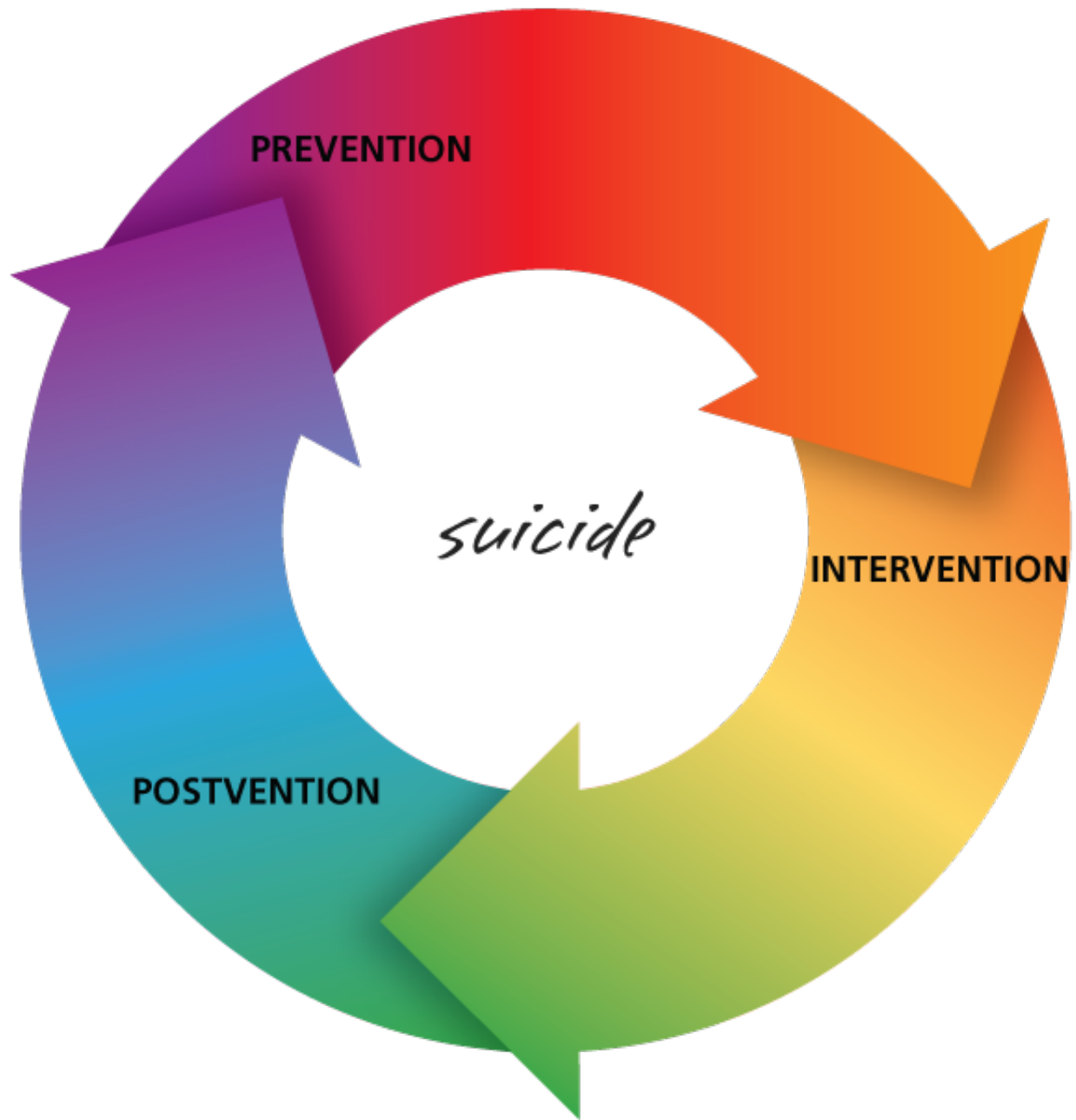
- Video clip

Moving from a passive to an Active Postvention Model (APM)

- Reviewed SOS data from 1989-1994 (Bland-BRCIC data n=214)
- 28 relationships sought help (APM= 45)
- Passive=Elapsed time between loss and help= 3.4 years
- APM=Elapsed time <47 days (10 year average)
- Active (resources find SOS at the scene)
- Goal=REFER SOS to Services!

Top Ten rankings by Relationship (seeking services) in 7 year study (n=345/415 or 83%)

1. **Mother of the deceased**
2. **Sister of the deceased**
3. **Wife of the deceased**
4. **Daughter of the deceased**
5. **(tied) Friend-Son of the deceased**
6. **Father of the deceased**
7. **Brother of the deceased**
8. **Girlfriend of the deceased**
9. **Stepfather of the deceased**
10. **(tied) Cousin-Fiancée of the deceased**



Tarrant County Case Study

- **Lezlie D. Culver, LOSS Team Coordinator**
Mental Health America of Greater Tarrant County
- **Jennifer Smith, LMSW, Program Manager**
MCOT & ICARE Call Center

Thank You

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