

## Suicide intervention training available in Deschutes County

*by Bend\_Weekly\_News\_Sources*

Through a joint effort from local community partners, two Deschutes County residents have been trained to conduct workshops in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST).

The Deschutes County Commission on Children and Families, the Oregon Public Health Youth Suicide Prevention Division and the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Central Oregon (NAMI), sponsored the training for Cheryl Emerson and Lisa Golden. Emerson and Golden are members of the Deschutes County Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition and are Masters in Counseling students at OSU-Cascades.

The addition of two qualified ASIST trainers in Deschutes County increases the number of people who are trained to identify and respond to individuals in a suicidal crisis. The ASIST training of Emerson and Golden greatly enhances the goals of the Deschutes County Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition to offer local and on-going training in Central Oregon.

The Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training for trainers, provided by Livingworks, trains and certifies successful candidates to conduct standardized, two-day suicide intervention ASIST workshops.

The evidence-based ASIST workshop is the most widely researched and utilized suicide intervention training in the world. Workshop attendance is encouraged for a wide spectrum of individuals including people in medical, mental health and law enforcement professions as well as educators, lay people, caregivers and community volunteers.

For more information about ASIST, please visit <http://www.livingworks.net/AS.php> or for suicide prevention programs and trainings, please contact the Deschutes County Commission on Children and Families at 385-1717.

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